MATURE CONTENT
Basilisk
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THE KOUGA NINJA SCROLLS
ORIGINAL STORY BY FŪTARO YAMADA
MANGA BY MASAKI SEGAWA

Basilisk

ORIGINAL STORY BY FŪTARO YAMADA

BASED ON THE KODANSHA NOVEL *THE KOUGA NINJA SCROLLS*

MANGA BY MASAKI SEGAWA

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY DAVID URY

LETTERED BY FOLTZ DESIGN

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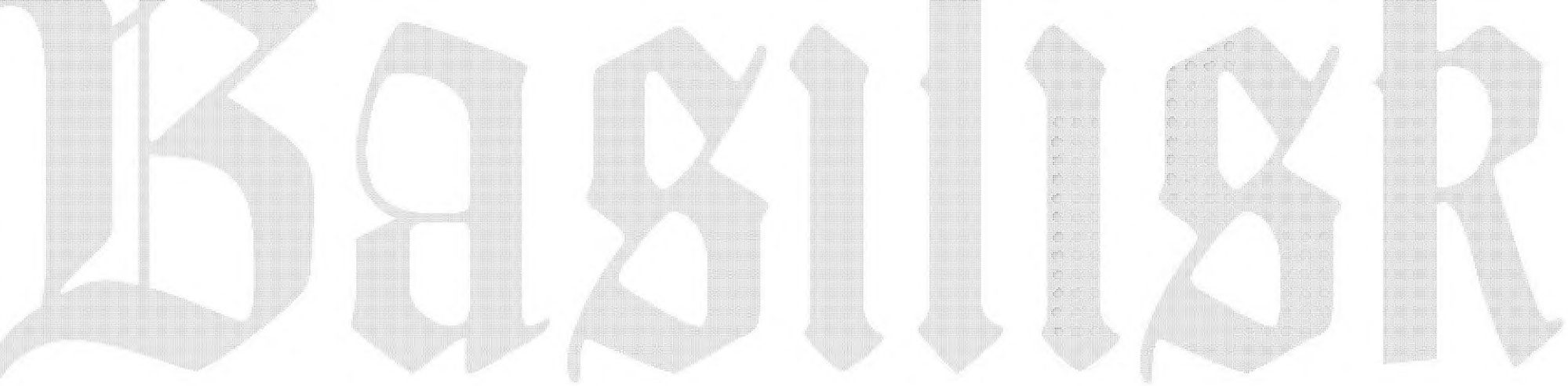

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Basilisk 2

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THE KOUGA NINJA SCROLLS

ORIGINAL STORY BY
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BASED ON THE
KODANSHA NOVEL
THE KOUGA NINJA SCROLLS

THE TEN COMBATANTS OF THE KOUGA CLAN

DANJOU KOUGA
GENNOSUKE KOUGA
JUUBEI JINUSHI
SHOUGEN KAZAMACHI
GYOUBU KASUMI
JOUSUKE UDONO
SAEMON KISARAGI
HYOUMA MUROGA
KAGEROU
OKOI

THE TEN COMBATANTS OF THE IGA CLAN

OGEN
OBORO
YASHAMARU
ROUSAI AZUKI
JINGOROU AMAYO
KOSHIROU CHIKUMA
NENKI MINO
HOTARUBI
TENZENYAKUSHIJI
AKEGINU

THE STORY SO FAR

UNDER THE ORDER OF RULER IEYASU TOKUGAWA, THE THIRD TOKUGAWA SHOGUN SHALL BE DECIDED BY A BATTLE OF 10 VS 10 BETWEEN THE KOUGA AND THE IGA NINJA. THE BLOODBATH BETWEEN THESE TWO NINJA CLANS BEGINS WHEN THE TWO CLAN LEADERS, OGEN OF THE IGA AND DANJOU OF THE KOUGA CLAN TAKE EACH OTHER'S LIVES.

BOTH LEADERS DIE BEFORE THEY CAN TELL THEIR FELLOW CLAN MEMBERS ABOUT IEYASU'S ORDER. HOWEVER, THE IGA CLAN MANAGES TO GET HOLD OF THE BATTLE SCROLL BEFORE THE KOUGA CLAN KNOWS OF ITS EXISTENCE. SOON, THE IGA CLAN VANQUISHES JUUBEI JIMUSHI, SHOUGEN KAZAMACHI, AND JOUSUKE UDONO. THE ONLY NINJA WHO DON'T KNOW THAT WAR HAS BEEN DECLARED ARE OBORO OF IGA, GENNOSUKE KOUGA, AND THE KOUGA CLAN.

THE IGA CLAN HAS THE ADVANTAGE, BUT WILL THE KOUGA CLAN STRIKE BACK?

AND WHAT OF GENNOSUKE AND OBORO'S LOVE AFFAIR?

INTRODUCTION TO THE DEAD

JOUSUKE UDONO

HE HAS FLESH THAT CAN STOP A SWORD. WHILE SNEAKING AROUND OGEN'S PALACE, HE RUNS INTO IGA'S JINGOROU AMAYO. AMAYO DIVES INTO UDONO'S BODY AND KILLS HIM.

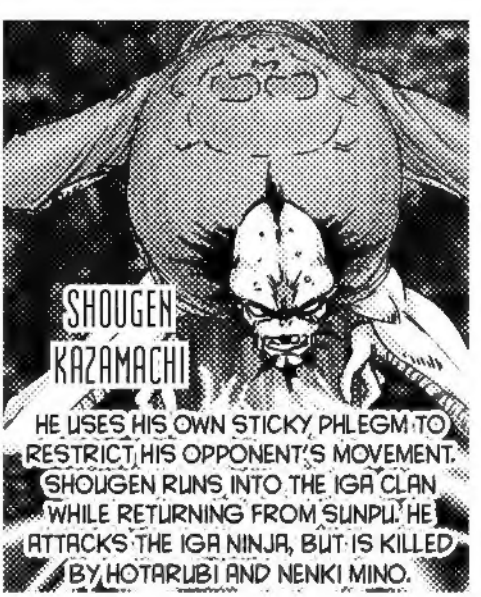
DANJOU KOUGA

THE LEADER OF THE KOUGA-MANJIDANI SECT. DIED WHEN OGEN OF IGA SHOT HER OWN POISONED DART BACK AT HIM.

A BLOODY AND TORTUOUS HELL AWAITS THE DEAD.

OGEN IGA

THE LEADER OF THE IGA-TSUBAGAKURE SECT. SHE IS KILLED WHEN DANJOU KOUGA SHOOTS A POISONED DART INTO HER THROAT.

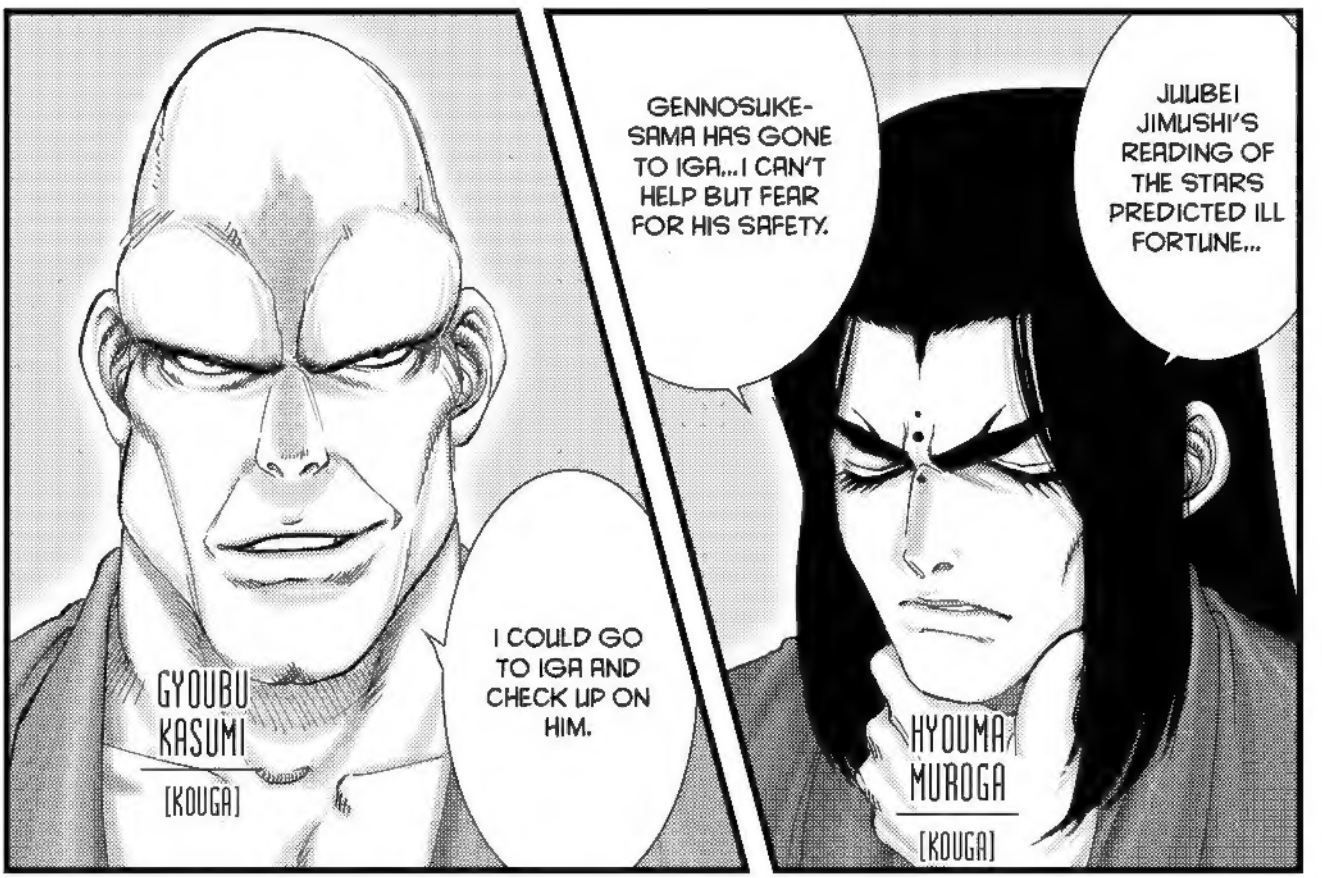


SHOUGEN KAZAMACHI

HE USES HIS OWN STICKY PHLEGM TO RESTRICT HIS OPPONENT'S MOVEMENT. SHOUGEN RUNS INTO THE IGA CLAN WHILE RETURNING FROM SUNPU. HE ATTACKS THE IGA NINJA, BUT IS KILLED BY HOTARUBI AND NENKI MINO.

JUUBEI JIMUSHI

A NINJA WITH NO ARMS OR LEGS. HE BATTLES IGA'S TENZEN YAKUSHIJI USING THE SPEAR HIDDEN IN HIS THROAT. HE ASSUMES THAT TENZEN IS DEAD, BUT LATER DIES BY TENZEN'S SWORD.


GYOUBU KASUMI
[KOUGA]
I COULD GO TO IGA AND CHECK UP ON HIM.
GENNOSUKE-SAMA HAS GONE TO IGA... I CAN'T HELP BUT FEAR FOR HIS SAFETY.
JUUBEI JIMUSHI'S READING OF THE STARS PREDICTED ILL FORTUNE...
HYOUMA MUROGA
[KOUGA]

KAGEROU
[KOUGA]
GENNOSUKE-SAMA MUST BE INSANE.
... MARRYING AN IGA GIRL...
SAEMON KISARAGI
[KOUGA]
.....

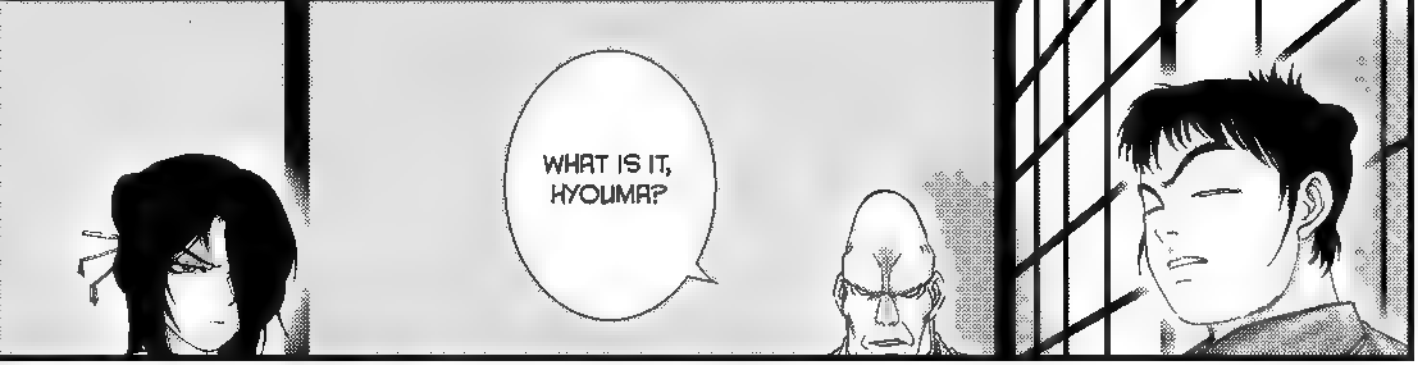
OH...
YOU SENT OKOI TO IGA?

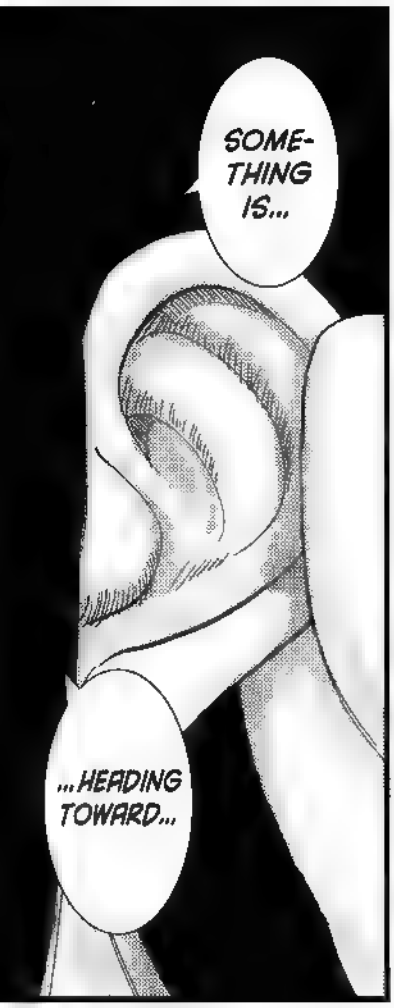
WELL, FOR STARTERS...
I JUST SENT MY LITTLE SISTER TO IGA TO CHECK THINGS OUT.

OF COURSE. SHE'S PERFECT FOR THE JOB.
BESIDES, EVEN IF GENNOSUKE-SAMA FINDS HER, SHE WON'T GET IN TOO MUCH TROUBLE.
I FIGURED THEY'D GO EASY ON A GIRL.

SHH!

WE'LL JUST WAIT FOR OKOI TO RETURN.
SO, I GUESS FOR NOW...


WHAT IS IT, HYOUMA?


SOME-THING IS...
...HEADING TOWARD...

.....
PING

...MANJIDANI.

KILL NUMBER 7

[3 VS 9]

THEY'RE COMING FROM THE NORTH.
NINJA!
THE NORTH? ...THE ROAD FROM THE CITY?
WELL THEN, IT MUST BE DANJOU-SAMA OR SHOUGEN RETURNING FROM SUNPU, RIGHT?

OKAY.
I'M GOING TO CHECK THINGS OUT.

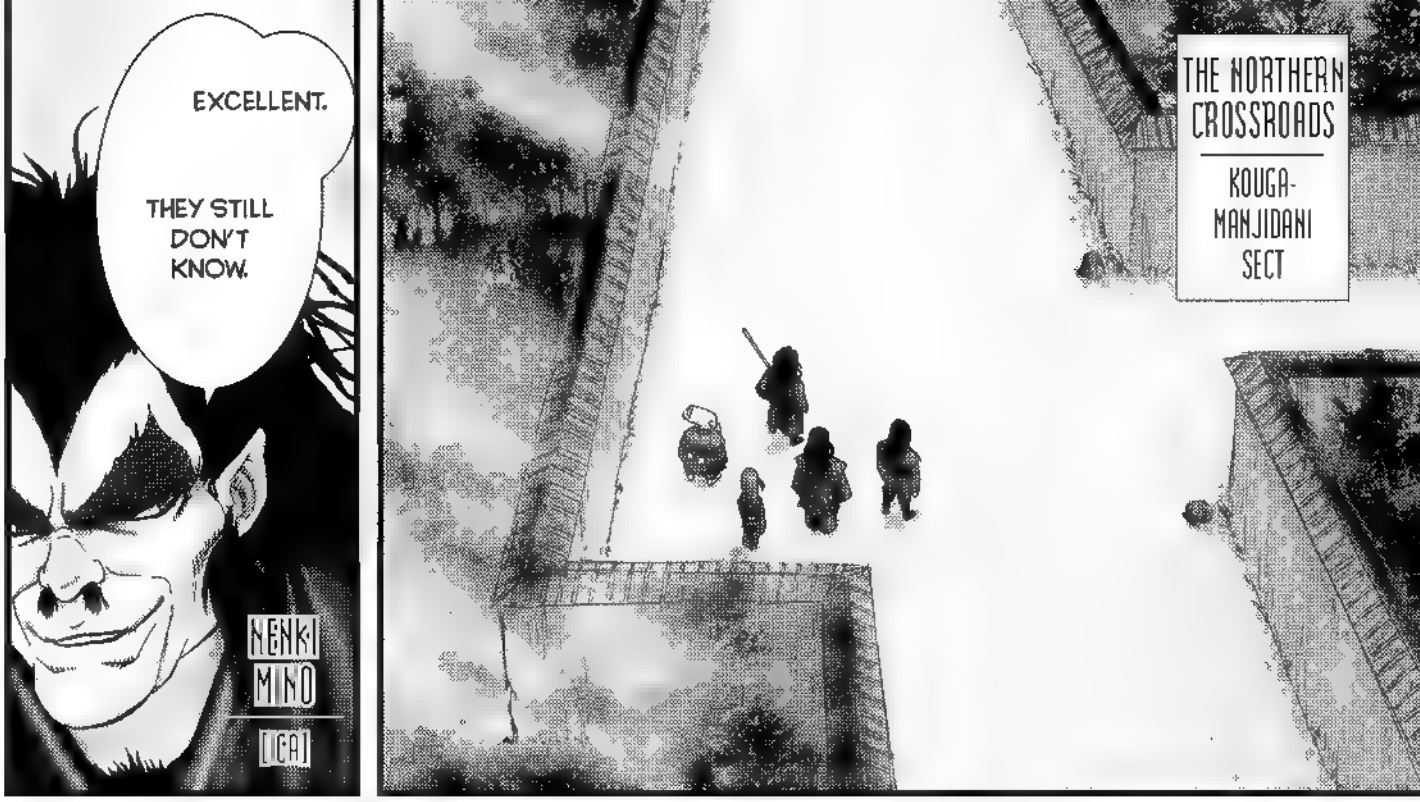
NO! THEY'RE NOT KOUGA NINJA.
THERE ARE FIVE OF THEM. I CAN SENSE MURDEROUS INTENTION IN THEIR MOVEMENT.

I WILL.

AND TELL THEM TO STAY AWAY FROM THE ROAD UNTIL I GIVE THE SIGN.
SAEMON, GO WARN THE VILLAGE.

I HAVEN'T BEEN HERE SINCE I WAS A KID.
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME.
TENZEN YAKUSHIJI

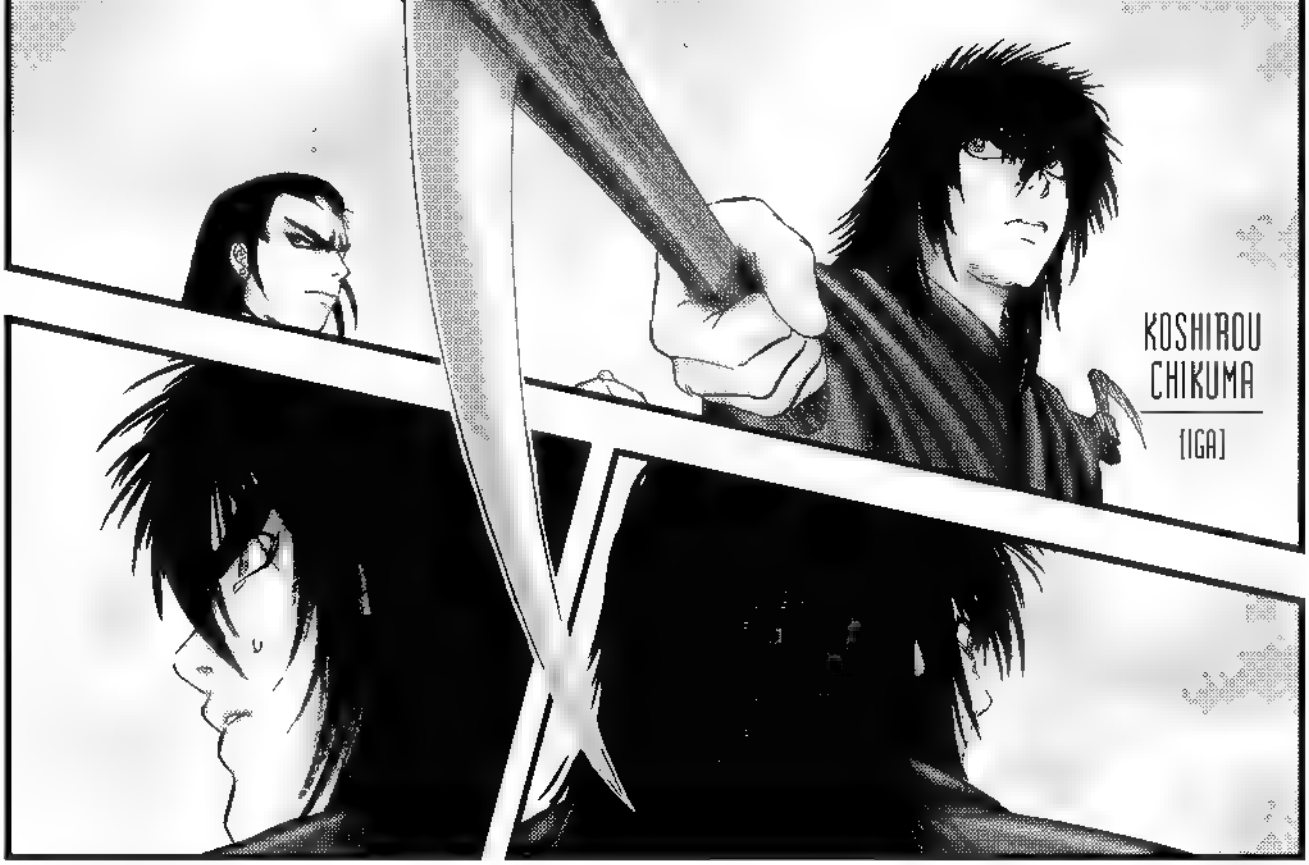
ABOUT 170... OR 80 YEARS.
I REMEMBER THIS TREE WAS NO TALLER THAN I WAS BACK THEN.


EXCELLENT.
THEY STILL DON'T KNOW.
KENKI MINO
[IGA]
THE NORTHERN CROSSROADS
KOUGA-MANJIDANI SECT

LOOK HOW MUCH TROUBLE SHOUGEN KAZAMACHI GAVE YOU...AND HE WAS ALL BY HIMSELF.
DON'T GET COCKY JUST BECAUSE THEY DON'T KNOW YET.
!?

WELL THEN...
WHY DON'T WE TAKE CARE OF ALL OF THE NINJA LISTED ON THE SCROLL...RIGHT NOW.
ROUSAI AZUKI
[IGA]

SCHWIP


KOSHIROU
CHIKUMA
[IGA]

...I SENSED SOMEONE'S PRESENCE.
WHAT IS IT, KOSHIROU?

!?
KOTARUBI
[IGA]
WHOA!
FWISH
ｱｰｲｰ

SHINK
HWAAAH!
SHIT!
WHA—
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, ROUSAI?
HYA!
THUD
AHH!

FLIP
UMMPH!
HYAA!
SMASH
WHAT THE HELL? WHAT IS IT, ROUSAI?
THE- THE WALL SURROUNDED ME, AND SPOKE TO ME!
IT SAID, "THE WALL OF MANJIDANI HAS EARS."

ATTENTION!
SUSPICIOUS INTRUDERS HAVE ENTERED MANJIDANI!
THE -
THE WALL IS TALKING.
SHIT!

STOP! WE MEAN NO HARM!
WE ARE MESSENGERS SENT BY GENNOSUKE-SAMA.
WE CAME FROM IGA!
THAT'S A LIE! WHY WOULD A MESSENGER FROM IGA BE COMING FROM THE NORTH?
YOUR STORY IS TOO SUSPICIOUS!

ALL RIGHT!
FWAH
TAKE THEM DOWN!
FWAH
WHOOSH
YEAH!
SHIT!
THAT'S IT!
KILL THEM ALL!

WHOOSH
WHOOSH
FUUUU
HYUU
!?
!!
I-I'M BEING SUCKED-

CRACK

...IN.

RRRIP

TASTE THE ...

...DEADLY, RAZOR SHARP WIND OF MY TORNADO TECHNIQUE, YOU KOUGA BASTARDS!

SPLAT

!

!

STEP
STEP
GRIN
CLOP
WAAAH!
HYAAA!
SWISH
HYAAA-
AAAA!
SWISH

CRACK
SMACK
RRRIP
HYAA!
HYAA!
HYUUU

THWIP
POUNCE
!
SQUIRT
SHOUGEN KAZAMACHI?
IT CAN'T BE
MUST BE ONE OF HIS KIN!
GRIN
HYUUU
NICE TRY!
PWAP
I NEVER FALL FOR THE SAME TRICK TWICE!

COME ON, YOU FOOLS! IN THE NAME OF THE KOUGA NINJA...
DON'T LET THEM GET AWAY!
ATTACK! ATTACK!
HYAAA!

WHAT THE—
FLUTTER

WHOOSH
DON'T LET THEM GET AWAY!
AFTER THEM!
STEP

WHAT A MESS.
.....

WELL, WELL...
SO THAT'S HOW YOU GREET MESSENGERS FROM IGA, IS IT?
!

HAVE THOSE IGA RATS GONE MAD?
EVEN THROUGH BLIND EYES, I CAN SEE THIS DISASTER.

THOSE BASTARDS...
WHY DON'T WE ATTACK TSUBAGAKURE?

I SEE HOW YOUR KOUGA MINDS WORK.
IF YOU'RE CRAZY ENOUGH...
...TO ATTACK IGA'S TSUBAGAKURE VALLEY...

.....

...BE FOREWARNED THAT WE WILL TAKE OUR REVENGE...
...ON YOUR FUTURE LEADER, GENNOSUKE KOUGA!

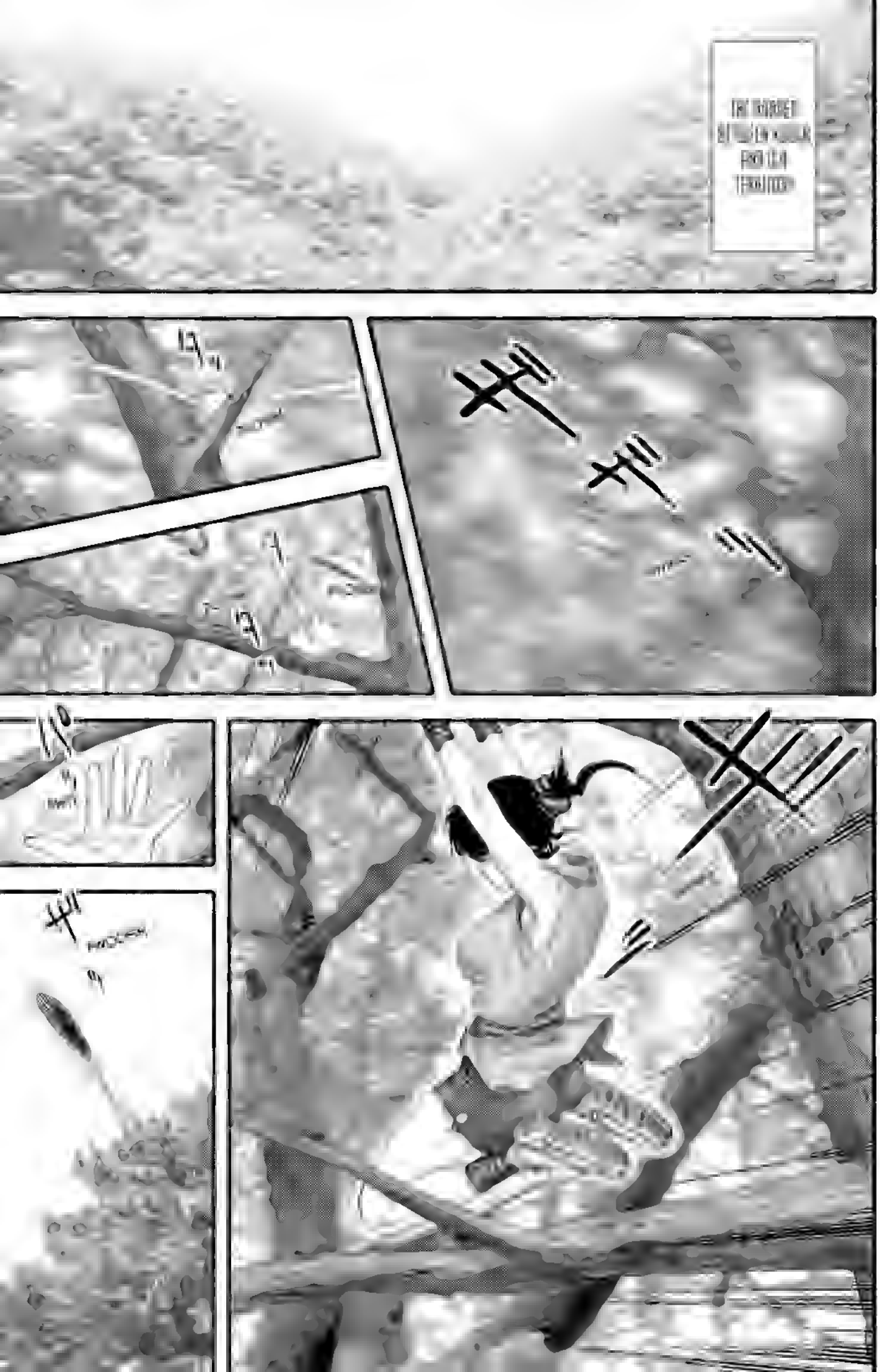
YOU BASTARD!

LET'S FOLLOW THEM, HYOUMA!
WE CAN'T!

.....

DON'T FORGET... THAT GENNOSUKE-SAMA...
...IS IN TSUBAGAKURE RIGHT NOW.

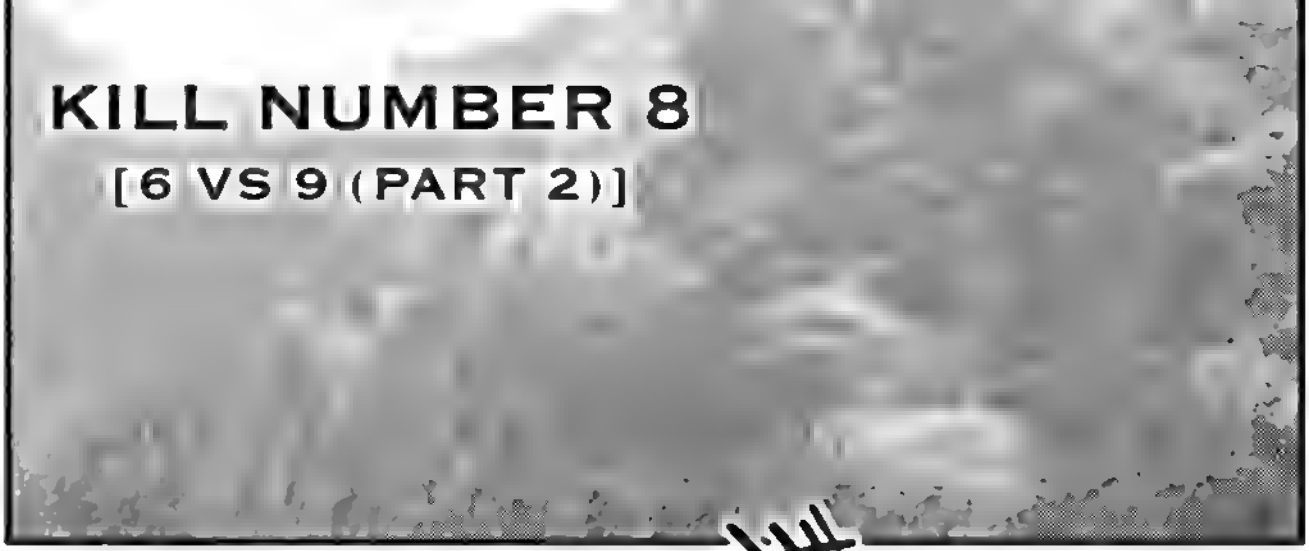
GENNOSUKE-SAMA...

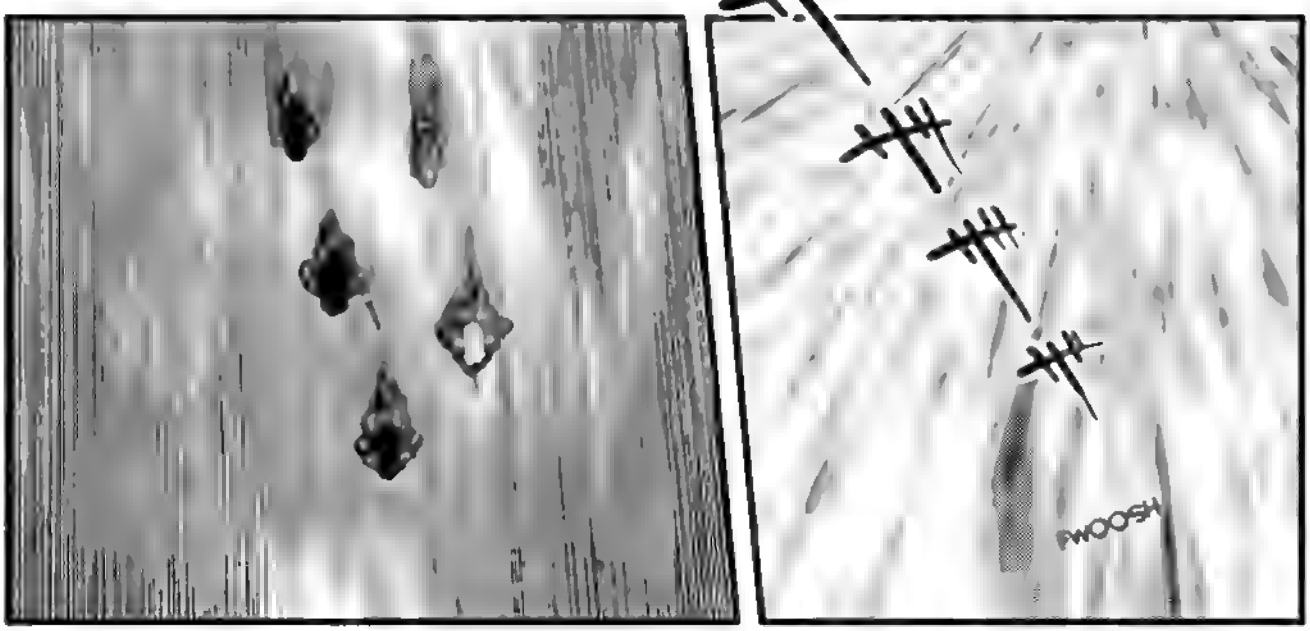


OKOI
[SAKAMOTO
KUNRAGI'S
YOUNGER SISTER]
END OF KILL
NUMBER 7

KILL NUMBER 8

[6 VS 9 (PART 2)]





!?
WHAT'S WRONG, TENZEN?
SOMEONE'S COMING
HIDE!
THOSE KOUGA NINJA MUST BE CHASING US
WHAT?

WOOSH
WOOSH

THAT'S...
OKOI FROM THE KOUGA CLAN.
OKAY.
LET'S CAPTURE HER AND TAKE HER TO HSUA AGAKURE.
SHE'S ONE OF THE TEN KOUGA NINJA.
HER NAME'S ON THE SCROLL.

!?
?
FROM MANJIDANI, AREN'T YOU?
<CURSE CHILD>
ZAP
ZAP

YOU MUST KNOW THAT THE IGA AND THE KOUGA ARE NO LONGER ENEMIES
AS YOU CAN SEE WE ARE FROM IGA. BUT.
THERE'S NO REASON TO BE AFRAID

I'M AWARE OF THAT

...STAYING THE NIGHT IN IGA'S TSUBAIGAKURE PALACE
THAT'S WHY GENNOSUKE KOUGA-SAMA IS

WE BARELY MADE IT...
...OUT ALIVE.
THE VILLAGERS MISUNDERSTOOD, AND CHASED US AWAY IN AN ANGRY FIT OF RAGE.
ACTUALLY...
WE'RE JUST RETURNING FROM MANJIDANI. WE WERE BRINGING A MESSAGE FROM GENNOSUKE-SAMA.
...GENNOSUKE-SAMA AND OBORO-SAMA AFTER WHAT HAPPENED.
ANYWAY, OKOI-DONO, WE CAN'T VERY WELL FACE...
SWIP
PERHAPS, YOU WOULDN'T MIND ACCOMPANYING US TO TSUBAGAKURE?
HAH!
GRIN
THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR UNDERES-TIMATING THE KOUGA NINJA.
.....
GRIP

.....
IS GENNOSUKE-SAMA SAFE?
GRIP
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "IS HE SAFE?"
WHAT A FOOLISH QUESTION.
THINK ABOUT IT... EVEN IF WE WANTED TO KILL GENNOSUKE-SAMA...
...THERE'S NO WAY WE COULD MATCH HIS SKILL.
GIGGLE
THAT'S... ...FOR SURE.

WELL THEN...
WILL YOU COME WITH US TO IGA?
GLANCE
.....
I'LL GO ASK...
GRIP
PLOINK
...THE REST OF THE MANJIDANI CLAN!
WHA-?

I'LL HANDLE HER!
OKAY!
HYAA!

STOP!

AH!

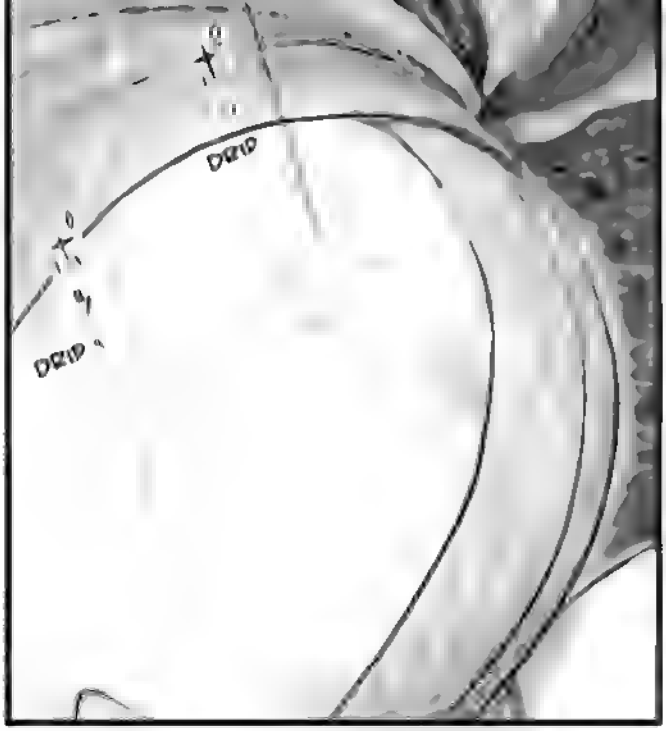
ばっ

!

UWAAH!
THWIRT
THWIRT
!
GOT HIM!
GU—

UNNPH...
RATTLE
HEH, ALMOST.
YOU ALMOST HAD ME, OKOI.

I'VE GOT SOME QUES-TIONS
FOR HER
DON'T KILL HER
YET
WHAT NOW?
ONCE THAT'S TAKEN CARE OF, THEN...
WE CAN USE HER TO LURE SESSHOUMARU


DRIP
DRIP

WE CAN CROSS HER NAME OFF THE LIST

DANJOU KOUGA'S PALACE

WE MUST ATTACK IGA!

...GYOUBU.
WE CAN'T...
.....
DON'T FORGET..
GENNOSUKE-SAMA IS IN TSUBAGAKURE.
THAT'S RIDICULOUS!
YOU WANT TO LET THEM GET AWAY WITH THIS, HYOUMA?
EVEN IF WE DO WANT TO ATTACK, THE VILLAGERS WON'T STAND FOR IT.
IF WE TRY TO ATTACK TSUBAGAKURE NOW...
THEY'LL BE READY FOR US.
WE LET THEM GET AWAY.
BESIDES...
HMMPH...

ARE YOU SAYING WE SHOULD JUST FORGET ABOUT GENNOSUKE-SAMA, HYOUMA?
TO HELL WITH THAT!
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS.
I HAVE THE UTMOST FAITH IN GENNOSUKE-SAMA.

JOUSUKE IS WITH HIM, TOO.
BESIDES...

HE WON'T FALL PREY TO THE IGA...
...THAT EASILY.

YES...
B-BUT...

THERE'S NO NEED TO RUSH, GYOUBU.
I WOULD NEVER LET ANY HARM COME TO GENNOSUKE-SAMA.
DON'T WORRY! WE'LL GO TO TSUBAGAKURE, AND MAKE SURE THAT HE'S SAFE.

...THE IGA AND THE KOUGA WERE ABOUT TO MAKE PEACE...
...JUST WHEN...
WHY WOULD THOSE IGA BAS-TARDS ATTACK MANJI-DANI...

BUT FIRST...
THERE'S SOMETHING WE NEED TO CHECK ON.

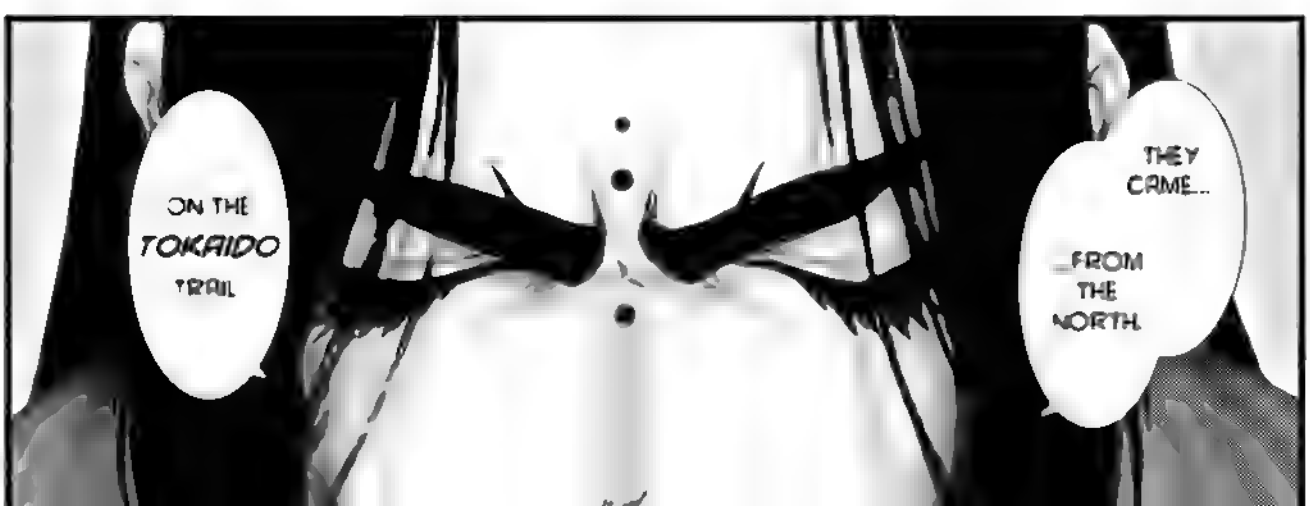
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT, SAEMON.

PRECISELY.

EVEN IN OUR CLAN, THERE ARE THOSE WHO WOULD ATTACK IGA IN A SECOND...
...IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE HATTORI TRUCE.
THERE MIGHT BE A FACTION...
...THAT IS AGAINST MAKING PEACE.
...HAS BEEN DISSOLVED?
WHAT IF THE HATTORI TRUCE...
THAT'S MY POINT.
IM-IMPOSSIBLE!
WHAT?
WHA-

"DON'T GET COCKY JUST BECAUSE THEY DON'T KNOW YET."
YES... HE SAID SOMETHING LIKE
THAT YOU HEARD TENZEN YAKUSHIJI SAY SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS WHEN YOU WERE HIDING IN THE WALL
GYOUBU, YOU MENTIONED...

SHOUGEN KAZAMACHI GAVE YOU... AND HE WAS ALL BY HIMSELF.
LOOK HOW MUCH TROUBLE...


ON THE TOKAIDO TRAIL
THEY CAME... ...FROM THE NORTH

PERHAPS SHOUGEN...
...WAS RETURNING FROM SUNPU WITH SOME IMPORTANT NEWS...
THAT COULD BE THE SECRET...
...BEHIND IGA'S ATTACK.

ALL RIGHT!
NO
I'M HEADING OUT ON THE TOKAIDO TRAIL.

I'M COMING WITH YOU!
...TOKAIDO

THE TOKAIDO TRAIL

SHIT!

ガシャ

NOT EVEN-
NOT DARUMA!
NOT EVEN THE SCROLL!
I CAN'T FIND ANYONE!
HOW THE HELL AM I GONNA EXPLAIN THIS?
SHIT!
HOTARUBI
THOSE IDIOTIC BASTARDS PROBABLY ALREADY HAVE THE SCROLL
PHLOGISTON IS AT LEAST A DAY AHEAD OF ME

I PRAY YOU'RE STILL ALIVE...
...TSUB...

...YASHA... MARU...
...HEY... HEY...
HEY
!?
!

FWOOSH
SWISH
WHO'S THERE?
END OF KILL NUMBER 8

IT'S ME, YASHAMARU.
IT'S YAKUSHIJI.
!

IS-IS THAT REALLY YOU, TENZEN-DONO?
WHERE—
WHERE ARE YOU?

TENZEN-
DONO!

KILL NUMBER 9

[3 VS 3 (PART 3)]

WHY ARE YOU RETURNING FROM SUNPU, YASHAMARU?
I CAN'T EXPLAIN RIGHT NOW, BUT... I CAN'T SHOW MYSELF.

AN EMERGENCY?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, YASHAMARU?

IT'S AN EMERGENCY, TENZEN-DONO!
IT—

IT— IT'S—
EH—

WA-WAIT, TENZEN-DONO!
THE REASON YOU CAN'T SHOW YOURSELF...

TTTT
MURDERED?

IS IT BECAUSE THEY MURDERED YOU?
!?

SHOUGEN KAZAMA-CHI OF THE KIDUGA CLAN?
WAS IT...

SHOUGEN KAZAMACHI.
YES. IT WAS NONE OTHER THAN...
.....

HE STOLE THE BATTLE SCROLL FROM ME
DANJOU KOUGA TRICKED ME...

I-I'M SORRY.
IT WAS ALL MY FAULT.

?
THE BATTLE SCROLL?

WHAT IS THE BATTLE SCROLL?
YASHAMARU...
BUT LUCKILY...
YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE WHO WAS KILLED.
EVERY-ONE ELSE IS STILL ALIVE...
I'VE GOT GOOD NEWS, TENZEN-DONO!
UNDER THE ORDER OF SUNPU'S RULER IEYASU-SAMA...
...AND WITH THE PER-MISSION OF HANZO HATTORI...
THE TRUCE BETWEEN THE IGA AND THE KOUGA...
...IS NO MORE!
WHA-
WHAT?

SHIT! I'VE BEEN TRICKED!
!?
WAIT!
HE'S OVER THERE!
!

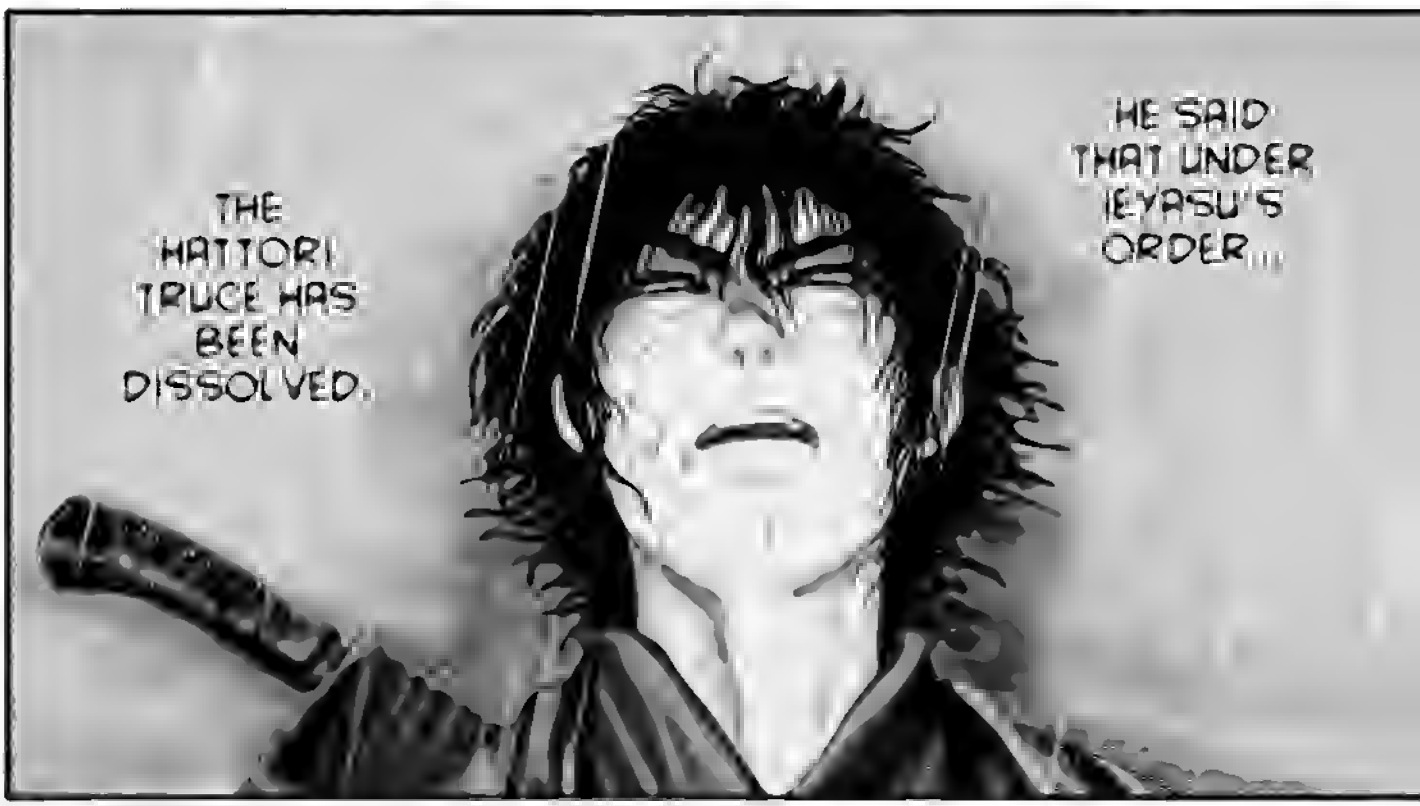
!
SHI-

SHI-
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
SHI-
TELL ME WHO YOU ARE!
TELL ME, OR I'LL TEAR YOU TO SHREDS.
YES!
IF I CAN BRING BACK HIS HEAD, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO SAVE SOME FACE.

SAEMON KISARAGI!
HELL AWAITS YOU!

THANKS, GROUP
THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE
I WAS HOPING TO QUESTION HIM BEFORE I KILLED HIM, BUT
I DIDN'T HAVE MUCH CHOICE

THIS LITTLE BASTARD... LET US IN ON A VERY IMPORTANT SECRET
WELL, AT LEAST HE'S DEAD NOW
HE WOULDN'T HAVE CONFESSED TOO EASILY ANYWAY.


THE HATTORI TRUCE HAS BEEN DISSOLVED.
HE SAID THAT UNDER IEYASU'S ORDER...

WHAT IN THE HELL IS THAT BATTLE SCROLL HE SPOKE OF?

BU-
OKUMA'S GUESS WAS DEAD ON!

AND ONE MORE THING...
WHILE I WAS TAKING TENZEN'S VOICE HE ASKED ME IF
...I'D BEEN "MURDERED."
HE PROBABLY JUST WANTED TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO TENZEN
THIS IS A DELICATE SITUATION, SAEMON
YES
NOW THAT WE KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON...
WE'VE GOT TO GET TO TSUBA-GAKURE RIGHT AWAY!
WE MUST MAKE SURE "HE" GENOUSUKE-SAMA IS SAFE

LORD'S
PALACE
THE
FOUNDATION
VAULT

GOOD
WORK

I STRIPPED
THE
KOUGA
GIRL...
...AND
I CHAINED HER
UP IN THE
SALT SHED

WELL, OBORO
SAMA IS
KEEPING HIM
BUSY
WHAT ABOUT
GENNOSUKE
AKEGINU?

WHEN HE ASKED ABOUT JOUSUKE UDONO'S WHEREABOUTS...
OBORO-SAMA TOLD HIM ABOUT..
...HOW HE HAD BEEN PESTERING ME.

THAT GUY NEVER GIVES UP
HE PROBABLY RAN BACK TO MANJIDANI TO HIDE HIS FACE IN SHAME
PLEASE ACCEPT MY APOLOGIES, AKEGINU-DONO

HE EVEN APOLOGIZED TO ME
THAT'S RIGHT..
HEH, HEH, HEH. ONCE A MAN LOOKS INTO OBORO-SAMA'S EYES..
..HE WILL BELIEVE ANYTHING SHE SAYS.

ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME WE TELL OBORO-SAMA WHAT'S GOING ON?
TENZEN..
HEH, HOW IRONIC.
WHEN OBORO-SAMA LOOKS INTO HER LOVER'S EYES...
SHE'S ACTUALLY SENDING HIM TO HIS GRAVE.
OBORO-SAMA IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN KILL GENNO-SUKE KOUGA.
JUST LET ME HANDLE THIS.
I'M AWARE OF THAT.

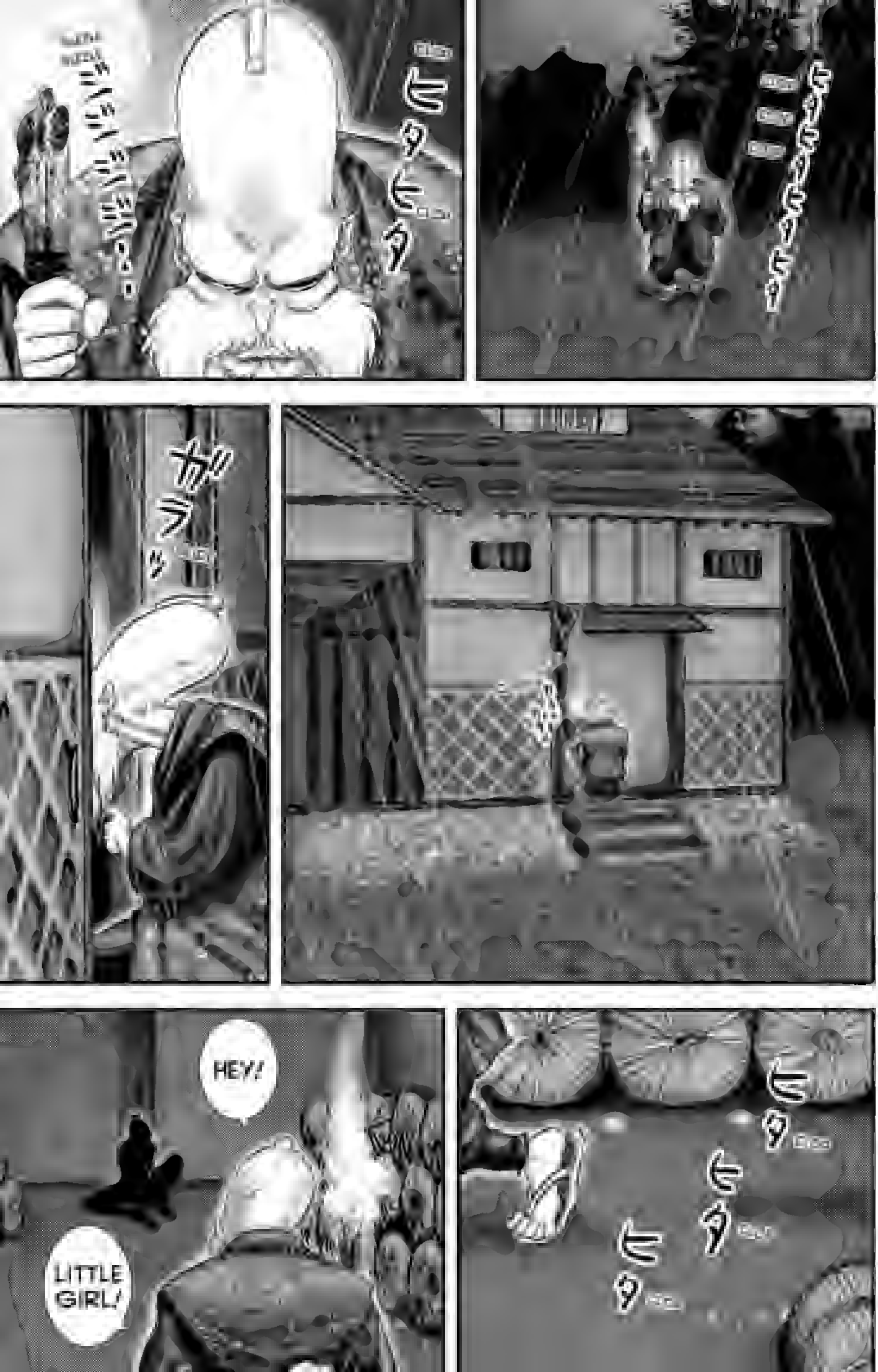
MMM... THIS MUD IS PERFECT

THERE'S NO TIME TO GO BACK TO KOUGAI.
WE'LL HAVE TO HEAD TO IGA ON OUR OWN, GYOUBU.
WORKS FOR ME.

ゴゴゴゴゴ
...WHO CAN BRING GENNOSUKE-SAMA BACK FROM THE DEAD?
YOU AND I ARE THE ONLY ONES.
OUT OF THE ENTIRE MUSASHI CLAN.
HEH. IT'S ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO...
...SEE YOUR TECHNIQUE IN ACTION, SENSEI.

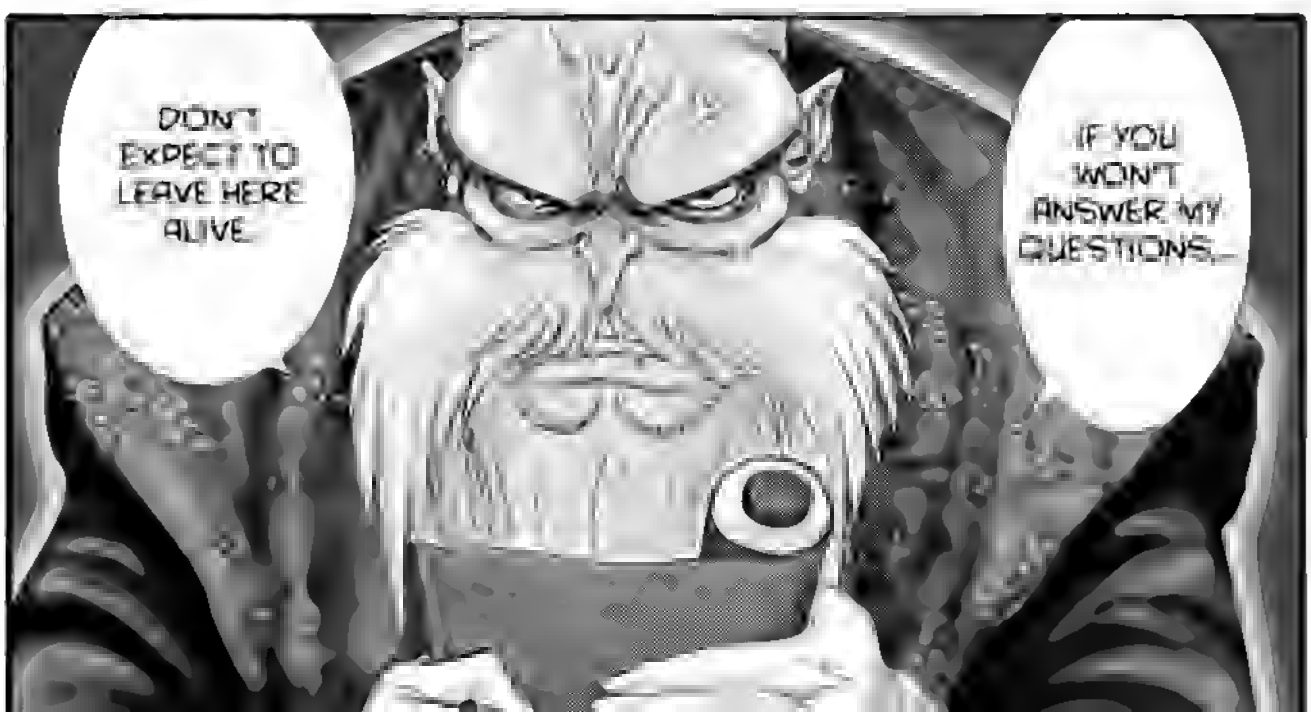
GRIN.

ヤシロさん
どこ…
キャアアアア


HEY!
LITTLE GIRL!

END OF KILL NUMBER 9

I WANT YOU TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS TRUTHFULLY.
LISTEN, OKOI


DON'T EXPECT TO LEAVE HERE ALIVE.
IF YOU WON'T ANSWER MY QUESTIONS...

KILL NUMBER 10
[6 VS 8]

I WANT TO ASK YOU ABOUT THE TEN KOUGA NINJA.

FIRST, TELL ME ABOUT HYOUMA MUROGA. I'VE HEARD THAT HE IS A BLIND NINJA.

WHAT TECHNIQUE DOES HE USE?

!

THE TEN COMBATANTS OF THE IGA CLAN

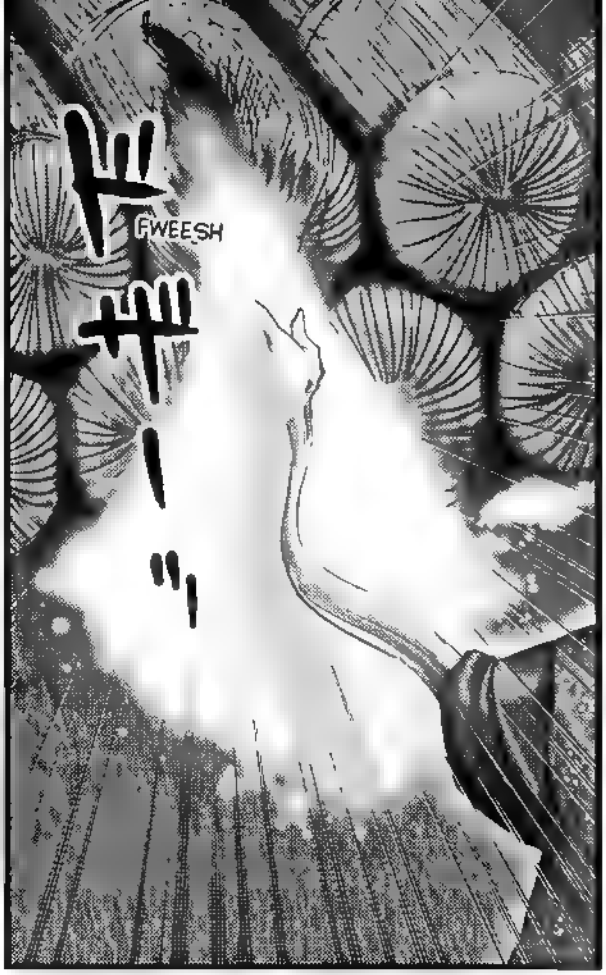
OGEN
OBORO
YASHAMARU
ROUSAI AZUKI
JINGOROU AMAYO
KOSHIROU CHIKUMA
NENKI MINO
HOTARUBI
TENZENYAKUSHIJI
AKEGINU

THE TEN COMBATANTS OF THE KOUGA CLAN

DANJOU KOUGA
GENNOSUKE KOUGA
JUUBEI JINUSHI
SHOUGEN KAZAMACHI
GYOUBU KASUMI
JOUSUKE UDONO
SAEMON KISARAGI
HYOUMA MUROGA
KAGEROU
OKOI

AND THEN, THERE'S SAEMON KISARAGI. WHAT'S HIS TECHNIQUE?
WHAT ABOUT HER?
AND THE GIRL CALLED KAGEROU...
I ALSO WANT TO KNOW WHAT TECHNIQUE YOU USE.
CRACK
OF COURSE...
HYAA!

CRACK
CRACK
SHALL I START... BY TEARING OFF YOUR EAR?
OR PERHAPS... YOUR RIGHT ARM... FOLLOWED BY THE LEFT?


FWEESH

YOU WOULDN'T WANT...
...ANYTHING LIKE THAT TO HAPPEN TO YOU, NOW WOULD YOU, OKOI?

TAP
WELL THEN...
WHY DON'T YOU JUST ANSWER MY QUESTIONS?

THEN MAYBE I'LL SLICE OPEN YOUR BREASTS, HUH?

!
WHA-?
YOU LITTLE-
MY-MY HANDS ARE STUCK!

AAHHH!
NOOOOOOOO!
YOU-
YOU FILTHY WHORE!
HOW DARE YOU SUCK MY BLOOD INTO YOUR-
AAH!

ズズズズ
ズズズ
GWAAAH!
WHOA!

HYAA-
AAHH-
...OLD MAN.

GWAHH!
AAAHH!

ズ
ズ
ズ
ガトゴゴ…

AND YOU
FINALLY
MADE IT TO
HEAVEN.
...HELL?
MOM?

TAP

バシャ
バシャ
バシャ
バシャ
バシャ

COUGH

GLANCE
...AND BRING HIM BACK TO KOUGA BEFORE
I'VE GOT TO MAKE SURE GENNOSUKE SAMA IS SAFE
THE IGA ARE DEFINITELY UP TO SOMETHING...

OGEN'S PALACE
FRONT GATE
I PRAY YOU'RE SAFE, OKOI.
OKOI'S SUPPOSED TO BE HERE CHECKING THINGS OUT-
!?

YA-YARUNARU-DONO?
DO-DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE ME?
THAT MUST BE... KOTARUBI.
DON'T TELL ME SHE'S ON TO ME ALREADY!

OUCH!

THANK GOD
YOU'RE OKAY

OH, I GET IT—SO THEY'RE TOGETHER...
...OF-OF COURSE I'M OKAY WHY WOULDN'T I BE?

!?
!
YOU IDIOT!
IS SHE TESTING ME?
MAYBE I SHOULD JUST KILL HER RIGHT HERE!!

I-I'M SORRY.
MAYBE I'M OVER-ANALYZING.

WHAT A WEIRD GIRL.

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU DOUBTED ME.
THE SNAKE IS ONE THING, BUT...
WELL, THAT WAS KIND OF A ROUGH WAY TO ORDER ME, DON'T YOU THINK?

I-I'M SO SORRY, IT'S JUST THAT...
YOUR HAIR LOOKS TOTALLY DIFFERENT...
...WHAT I DID BEFORE YOU LEFT FOR SAMPU.

I BET THAT DANJOU KOUGAI...
...OR SHOUSEN KIZEMACHI DID THAT TO YOU, DIDN'T THEY?
U-UM... YEAH... SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

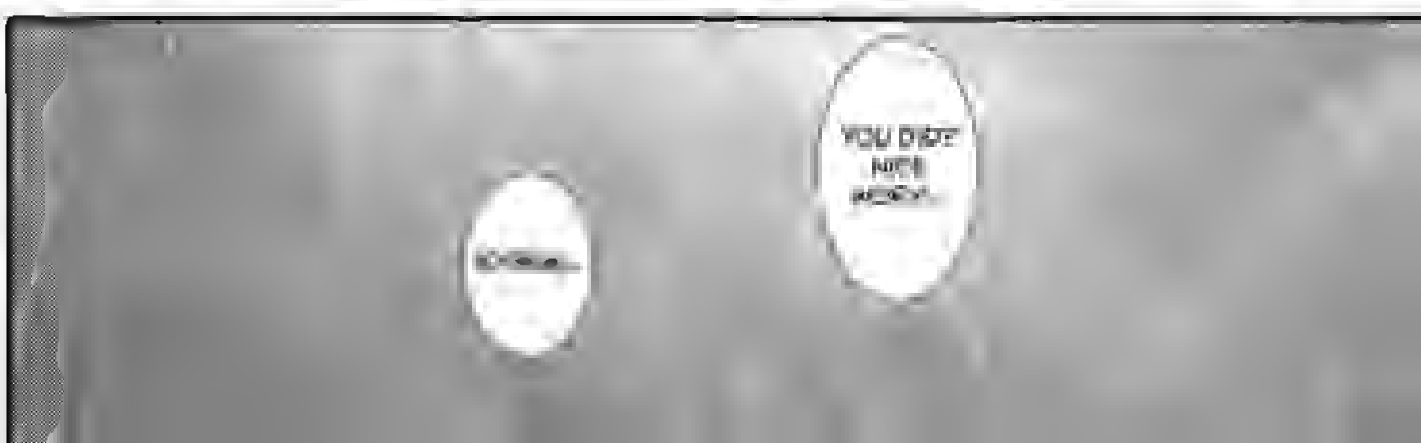
I-I SHOULD LOOK EXACTLY LIKE HIM...
IT-IT DOES?

SO... JIMUSHI'S READING OF THE STARS WAS RIGHT.
WHAT?

WELL, YOU CAN RELAX. DAN-SOU MOUGA IS PROBABLY DEAD.

...

AND I STABBED SHOUSEN KOUMACHI TO DEATH.
...WITH MY OWN...
...TWO HANDS!


YOU DIDN'T NOT!
EH?

ARE YOU IN HERE...
...ROUSAI?
.....

KILL ME...
HEY, LITTLE GIRL.
DID ROUSAI COME BY HERE?
DID YOU SEE A GRAY-HAIRED OLD MAN?
ONCE AN IGA WOMAN...
...IS RAPED... BY A KOUGA SWINE...
SHE CAN'T GO ON LIVING.
HMM... IT LOOKS LIKE YOU SPILLED YOUR GUTS.
WELL...A LITTLE GIRL LIKE YOU...
...IS NO MATCH FOR THAT OLD MAN.
.....
...WHAT?

I THOUGHT THAT WRINKLED OLD MAN'S...
THAT PHYSICAL PROWESS...
I GUESS THAT OLD MAN STILL...
...HAD SOME JUICE LEFT IN HIM.
...JUST NEED FIRED OUT A LONG TIME AGO.
WELL, WELL...

DIDN'T YOU, THINK...
...I COULD GIVE IT TO YOU BETTER THAN THAT OLD MAN?
EH?
NO, CAROL...
HUH?
RH?
AAH!

UMMPH!
HRRMPH!
HURTS, DOESN'T IT?
IT MUST FEEL AS IF...
1,000 LEECHES ARE SUCKING AWAY AT YOU.

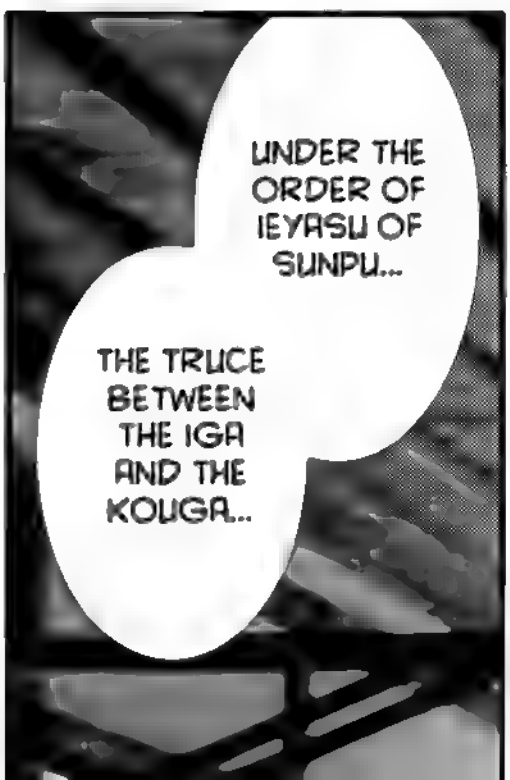
I'M GONNA SUCK UR...
...EVERY LAST DROP OF YOUR BLOOD.
AAAHHH!

END OF KILL
NUMBER 10

ザアアア

WHAT'S THIS IMPORTANT MATTER YOU WANTED TO DISCUSS?

SO WHAT IS IT, TENZEN?


UNDER THE ORDER OF IEYASU OF SUNPU...
THE TRUCE BETWEEN THE IGA AND THE KOUGA...

THIS IS DIFFICULT NEWS, OBORO-SAMA

KILL NUMBER 11
[6 VS 7]

...

...HAS BEEN DISSOLVED.

!?
AH!

WAHH!
AHHH!
AHH!
AHH!
AHH!
ガラ
ガラ

ARE YOU IN HERE, ROUSAI?
TENZEN WANTS YOU TO HAND OVER THE BATTLE SCROLL.
WHAT THE-

CRACK
YOU LITTLE-
SHI-

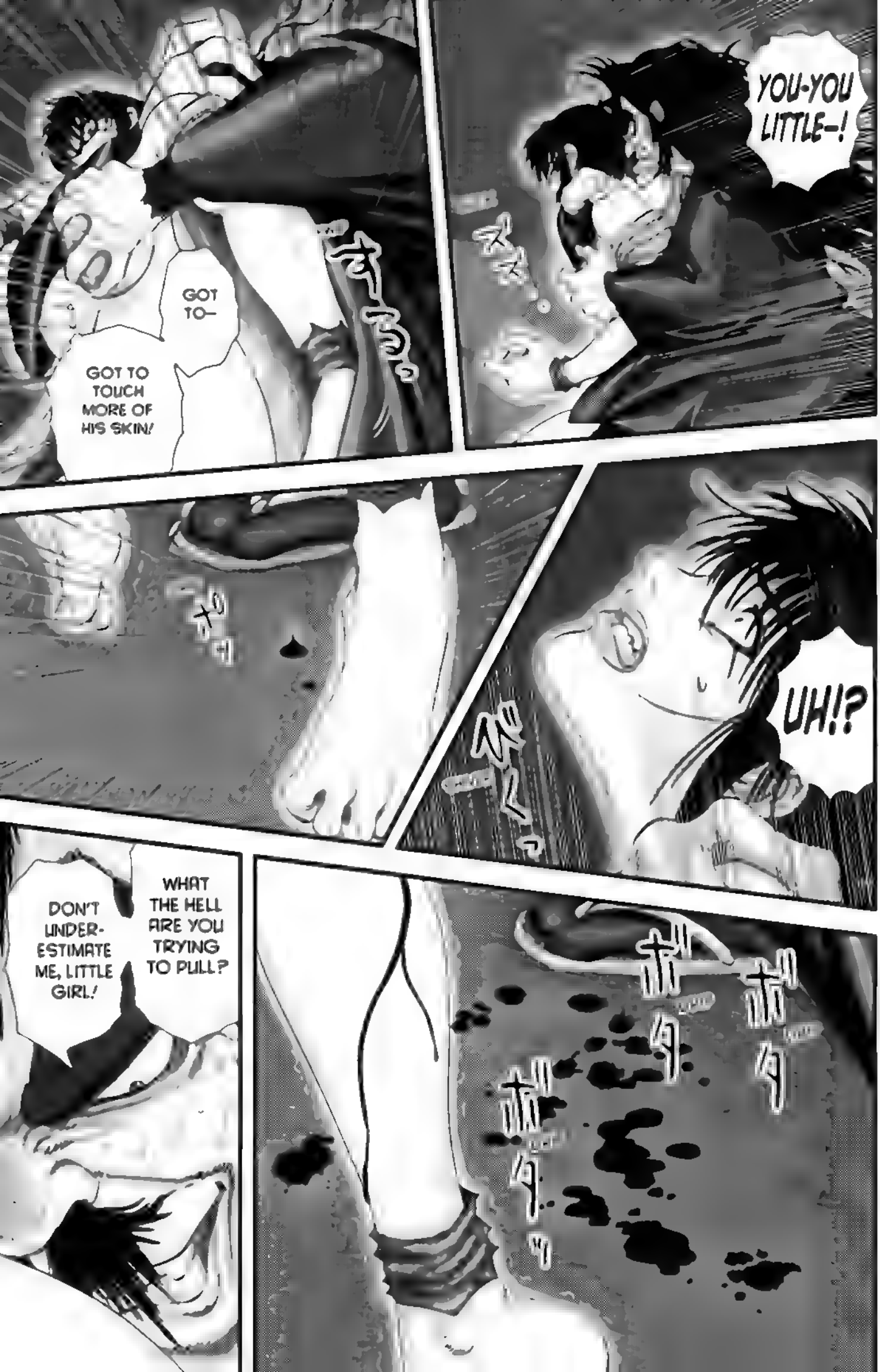
THEY'VE GOT A KOUGA GIRL LOCKED UP?
WHAT?

YASHAMARU DONO DON'T YOU KNOW ABOUT THE BATTLE SCROLL?
?
BATTLE SCROLL?
HER NAME IS OKOL AND SHE'S LISTED ON THE BATTLE SCROLL

I'VE GOT SOME QUESTIONS FOR HER
NO, I JUST WANT TO SEE HER BECAUSE HER NAME IS ON THE BATTLE SCROLL
UH-UH, OF COURSE I KNOW ABOUT IT
UM...I'D SURE LIKE TO TAKE A LOOK AT THAT GIRL. SHOW ME WHERE SHE IS, HOTARUBI

UH!
BYONG

UH...
UMMPH...
SCHWOOP
THAT WAS A NICE TRY, LITTLE GIRL... BUT...
IT'S ALL OVER NOW!
.....
WAAHHH!
SUCK


GOT TO—
GOT TO TOUCH MORE OF HIS SKIN!
YOU-YOU LITTLE—!
UH!?
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TRYING TO PULL?
DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE ME, LITTLE GIRL!

UH...
UH!
AH!

THEY TOLD ME NOT TO KILL YOU, BUT...
...
I'M AFRAID I HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE.
UH... UH...
AFTER ALL...
...YOUR NAME IS ON THE BATTLE SCROLL.
WE WERE GONNA HAVE TO KILL YOU ANYWAY... SOONER OR LATER.

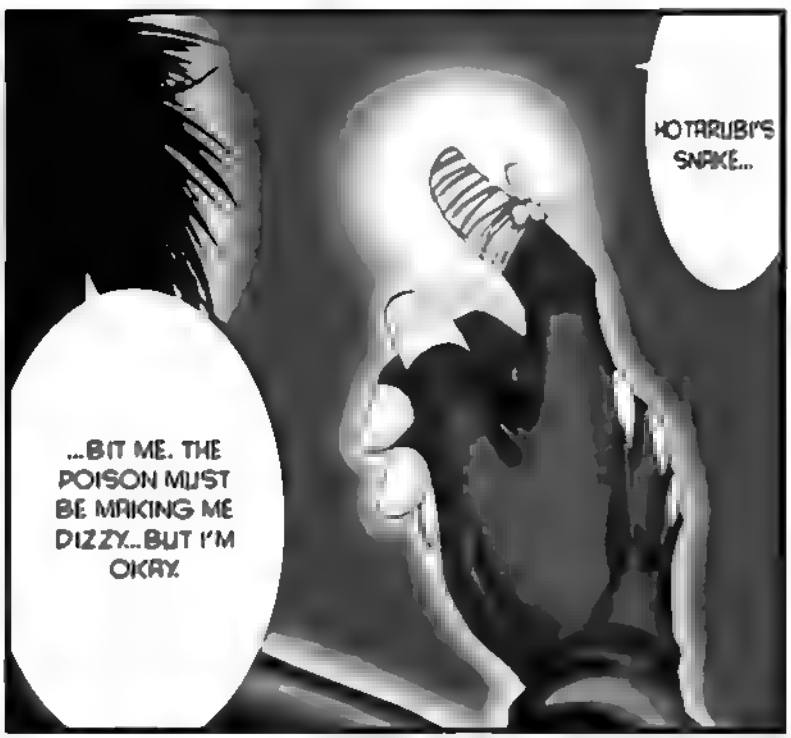
AH, YASHAMARU!
WHEN DID YOU GET BACK?

?
TADAMASA!!

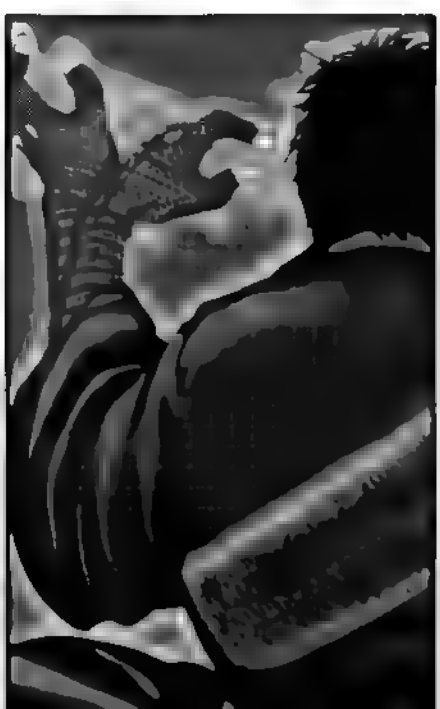
Uh...
I JUST GOT BACK!
JUST
NOW...

THUD
WHAT'S WRONG, YASHAMARU?

HOTARUBI, DID YOU SICK YOUR SNAKE ON YASHAMARU?
HOW CRUEL...


HOTARUBI'S SNAKE...
...BIT ME. THE POISON MUST BE MAKING ME DIZZY...BUT I'M OKAY.

DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT.
WHA-WHAT, HOTARUBI? I'M JUST KIDDING.



DID YOU FIND A NEW GIRL-FRIEND OR SOMETHING, YASHAMARU?

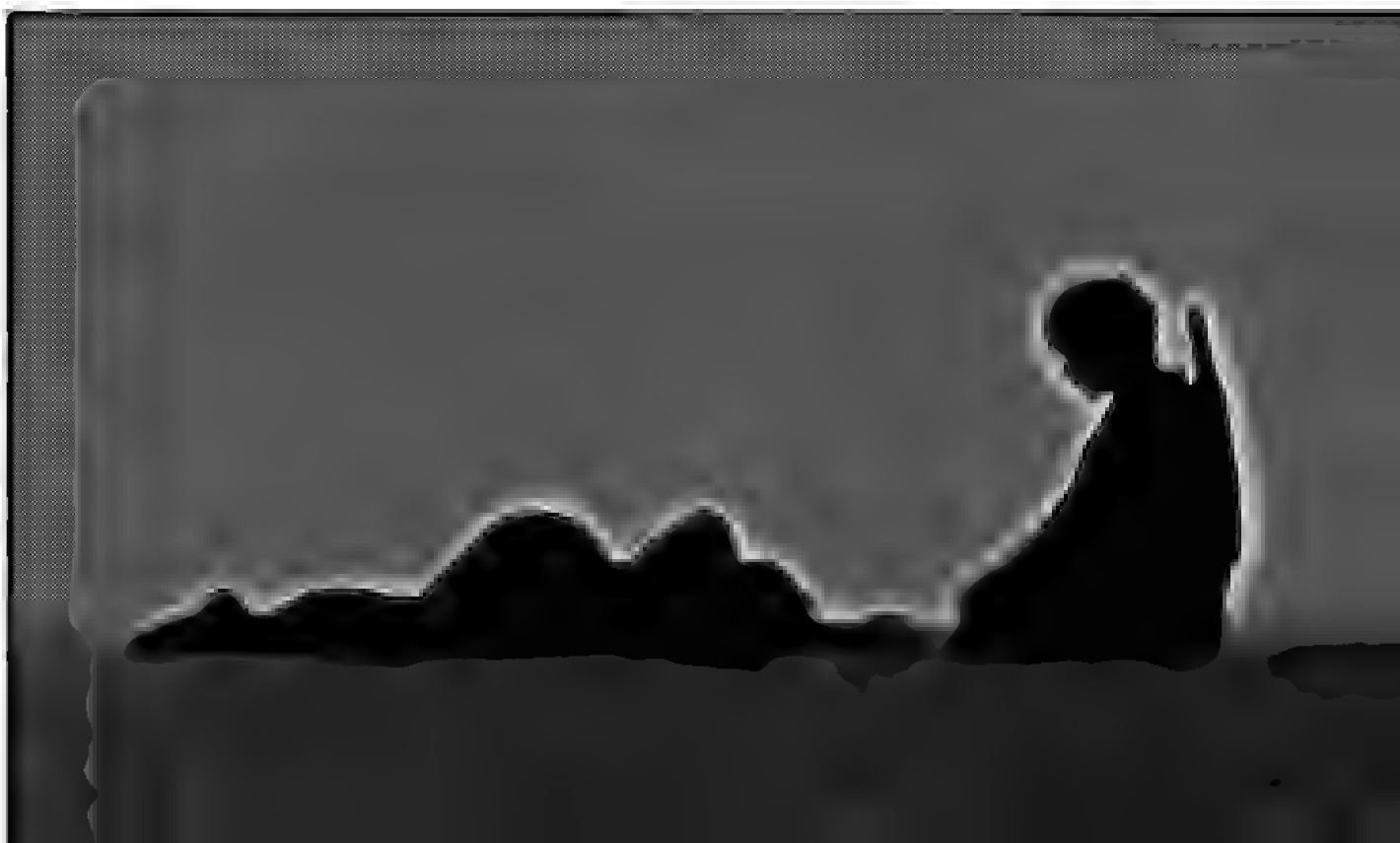
OKOI...
OKOI...
SQUEEZE
SQUEEZE
I'M SORRY...
OKOI...
I'M...
TOO
LATE...
SQUEEZE
SA...E...MO...N...

I KILLED...
...THE OLD MAN...ALL BY MYSELF.
SA...E...MO...N...
SA...E...MO...N...
YOU DID?... GOOD JOB...
GOOD WORK
...OKOI...
...STRANGE SCROLL...
...HIDDEN BETWEEN...
...THE SACKS OF SALT...
SQUEE...
TH-
THERE'S A...

SA...

THERE IS!
OKAY... I'LL GET IT.

...E...MO...
N... SA...E...
MO...N...
SA..



WHAT HAPPENED AT SUNPU?
WHAT HAPPENED TO OGEN-SAMA?
AH!
OH YEAH, YASHAMARU...

I CAN'T...
...TALK ABOUT THAT UNTIL I'VE SEEN OBORO-SAMA.
GRIN

...TENZEN-DONO.
IT SEEMS THAT OBORO-SAMA IS STILL IN HER SECRET MEETING WITH...

YOU HAVEN'T SPOKEN TO HER YET?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

...BUT OBORO-SAMA IS BLINDED BY HER LOVE FOR GENNOSUKE.
...STARTED A LONG TIME AGO...
THE BATTLE BETWEEN THE IGA AND THE KOUGA...

TENZEN'S PROBABLY HAVING A HELL OF A TIME TRYING TO TALK SOME SENSE INTO OBORO-SAMA.
YEAH.

... WE HAVEN'T KILLED GENNOSUKE YET?
YOU MEAN...

EVEN IF GENNOSUKE'S "ENCHANTED VISION" TECHNIQUE IS AS POWERFUL AS TENZEN SEEMS TO BELIEVE...
TENZEN IS TOO AFRAID OF GENNOSUKE.
EXACTLY!

I STILL DON'T THINK WE HAVE ANYTHING TO WORRY ABOUT
ARE YOU OKAY?
YURA I'M FINE.
HMMPH! WE'VE ALREADY CROSSED KIBIKAMI, MUSHA AND UCHIMO OFF THE LIST! AND I JUST TOOK CARE OF OKOU!
WHAT THE HELL IS TENZEN SO AFRAID OF!
RIN THAT'S RIGHT I'VE GOT TO FIND...
...KOUSAI AND THE SCROLL
KILL... KILL...

AH...
AH...

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, ENGORGIO?
NO, WATER... PLEASE...

GUSH

THERE!
HAVE ALL THE WATER YOU WANT!
AH...

WHA- WHAT THE HELL?

OH NO! ROUSAI-DONO!
WHAT IS IT, HOTARUBI?

IF
WAIT, OBORO-SAMA!
NO, I WON'T ALLOW IT!
THERE'S NO WAY I'LL LET YOU...
...LOCK A MANJIDANI WOMAN IN OUR SALT SHED!
WAIT! YOU'VE GOT TO UNDER-STAND, OBORO-SAMA!
WHAT'S DONE IS DONE! WE CAN'T STOP NOW!

AH!

UH...

UMMPH!
!?
YASHAMARU!?

UH...
YA-YASHAMARU-DONO?
WHAT'S WITH HIM?
KYAAA!
AHHHH!

SHIT!
END OF KILL NUMBER 11

KILL NUMBER 12
[5 VS 7]
YOU BASTARD!
YOU, KOUGA RAT!

SCHWIP
SMACK
!?
!
AAHH! SA-SALT!
KYAAA!
FLIP
OUCH, OUCH!

KYA!
!
AH!?
SHI-
……

KYA!
OBORO-SAMA!
AH!
UH...
SHIT!

KOSHIROU!
THE SCROLL!
SHOOK
AH!

THE SCROLL!
AH!
JINGOROU-DONO, GET THE SCROLL!
I'VE GOT IT!
OKAY!
HUH?
OKAY!

AH!
が
WHAT THE-?
UWAA!
GYAA!
SHI-

HA HAAA!

WHOA...

SHOULD RESUME.

THE ONE WHO TURNED INTO SOMETHING ELSE?
WHERE'S THE OTHER KOUGA MALE?
SIGH...

AFTER HIM!
DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!
HEY!

HEY!
STOP!
!

STAY FOCUSED...
THEY'RE PROBABLY HEADING FOR OHNOBUKE'S ROOM.
HOHAHOU... EITHER WAY, WE'LL

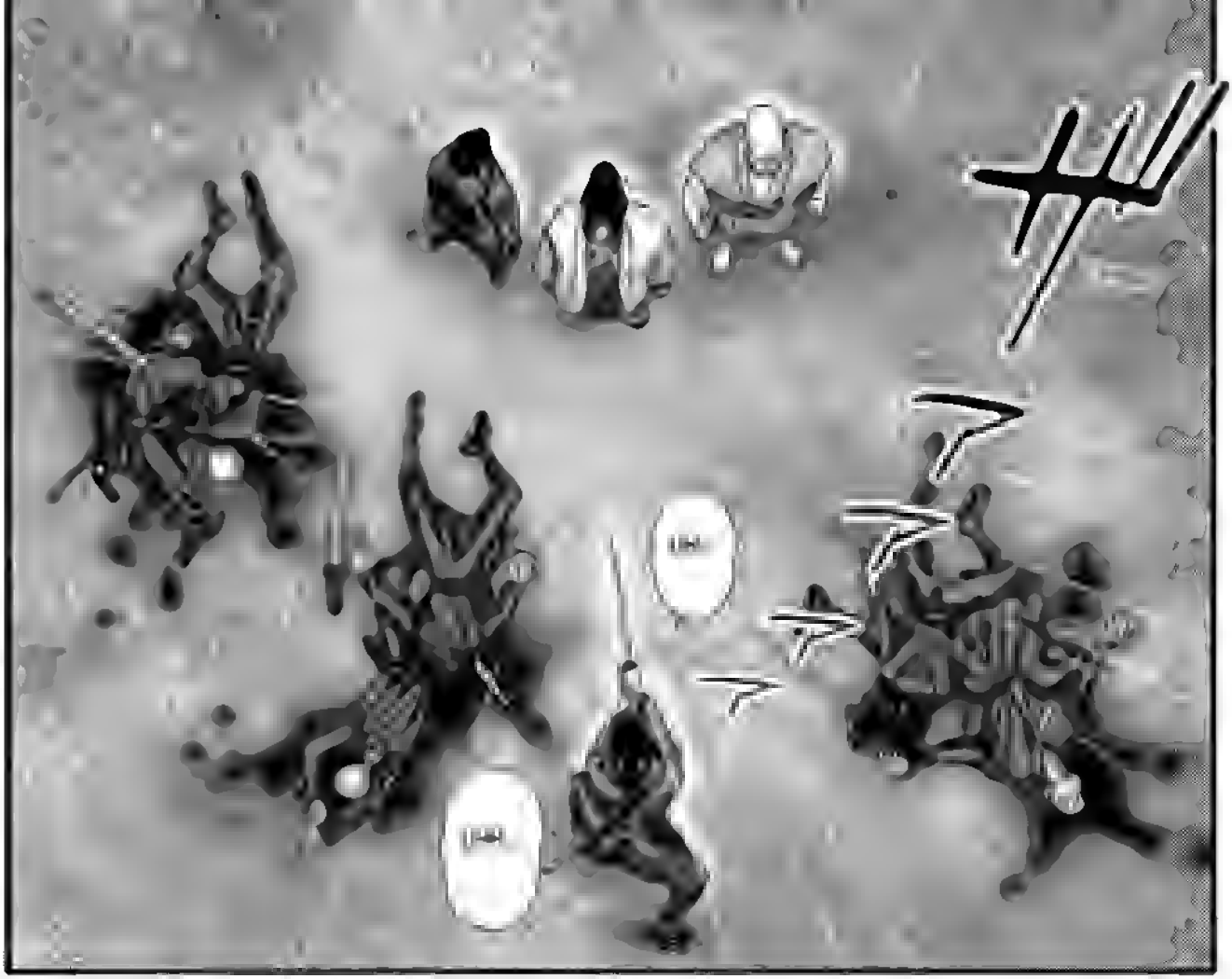
OUR LIVES MAY BE AT STAKE.

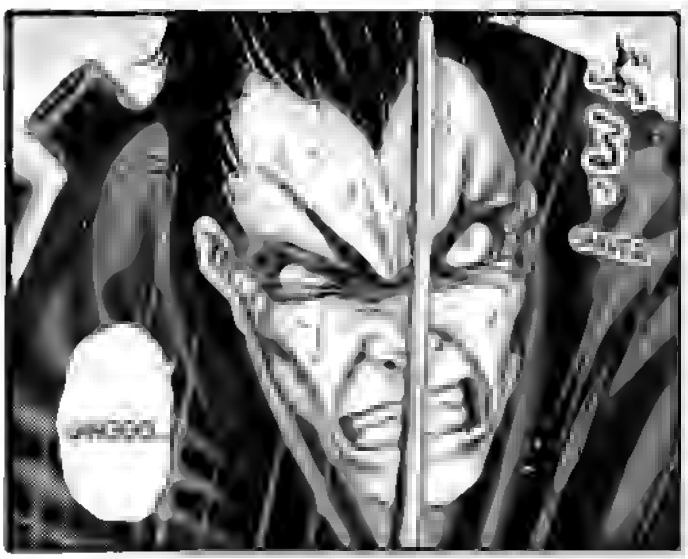
LET'S GO BACK... TO MANJI DAN.

GRR
GRR
GRR

TENZEN'S COWARDICE SOMEHOW INFECTED ME.
SHIT!
DAMN!

WA-WAIT, NENKI!
DON'T RUSH THIS!
HYAA! ATTACK!
ARE YOU CRAZY? NOW WHAT?


HA
HA


HAGGG

UWAAAAH!
AHHHH!
BZZT
BZZT

HA-THAT MUST BE GENOSHA'S... ENCHANTED VISION...

LET THEM GET AWAY
BUT...
GENNOSUKE!
STOP!
THERE'S ONLY ONE NINJA WHO COULD STAND AGAINST...
...GENNOSUKE...
IN THE ENTIRE IGA ELAN...

END OF KILL NUMBER 12

HMMPH...
TENZEN'S COCKY LITTLE SIDEKICK

OBORO-SAMA!

KILL NUMBER 13
[5 VS 7 (PART 2)]

YOU'VE GOT TO GET BETWEEN KOSHIROU AND GENNOSUKE...

OBORO-SAMA! PLEASE, SAVE US.
WHA—?
WHAT?

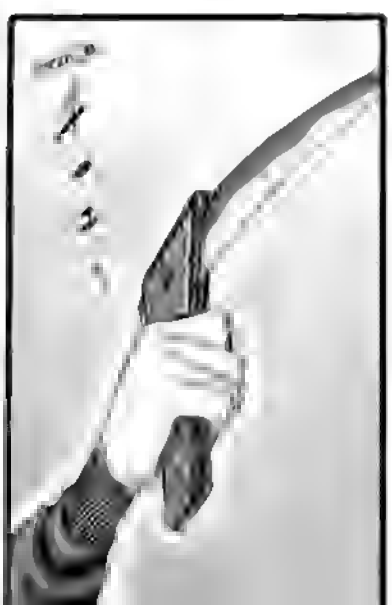
IF YOU TRULY ARE THE NEXT LEADER OF TSUBAGAKURE...
YOU'VE GOT TO DO IT!
...THEN YOU KNOW THAT OUR CLAN'S FUTURE HINGES ON THE OUT-COME OF THIS BATTLE.

...STARE INTO GENNOSUKE'S EYES...
...WITH YOUR OWN ENCHANTED VISION!
YOU'VE GOT TO....

GENNOSUKE'S...
...ENCHANTED VISION....
.....

ONCE THEY'RE UNDER HIS SPELL, THEY'RE FORCED TO TAKE THEIR OWN LIVES.
...ONLY AFFECTS THOSE WHO DESIRE TO HARM HIM.

KOSHIROU CHIKUMA IS THE ONLY OTHER NINJA...
OF THE ENTIRE IGA CLAN...
...WITH EVEN THE SLIGHTEST CHANCE OF BEATING HIM



SCHWIP

HMMPH...
HE MAY BE ABLE TO BLOCK KOSHIROU'S SICKLE-STYLE SHURIKEN, BUT...
HYUUU

HYUUU
HYUUU
!
...STOP THE RAGING HARRY WIND OF KUSHIROU'S...
...TORNADO TECHNIQUE.
THERE'S NO WAY HE'LL BE ABLE TO...

STOP IT, KOSHIROU!
STOP!
ONLY YOUR EYES CAN BREAK THE SPELL OF GENNOSUKE'S ENCHANTED VISION!
LOOK INTO GENNOSUKE'S EYES, OBORO-SAMA!
OBORO-SAMA!

STEP
GE-GET OUT OF THE WAY, OBORO-SAMA!
FWOOSH
HYUU HYUU
STEP

STOP! KOSHIROU!
!
SWIP
!
GOT TO...
NO! OBORO-SAMA'S EYES!
TURN AWAY...GOT TO TURN AWAY!
CAN'T—
TURN AWAY...
TURN AWAY...
GOT TO... TURN AWAY!

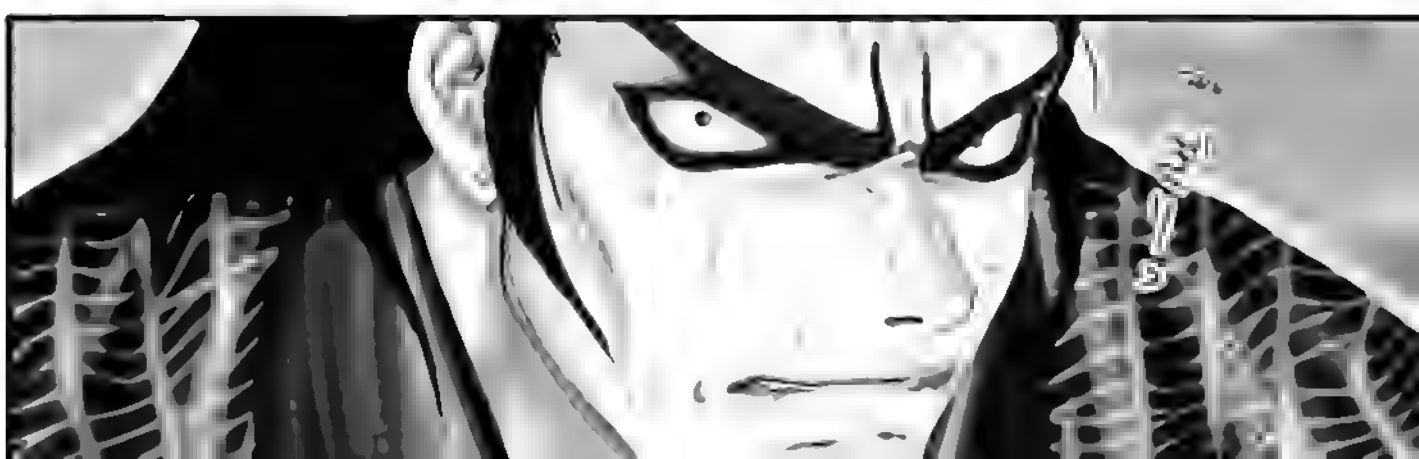
CRACK
HYUU...

GWAH!
UNNNG!

AH
OHH
ドサ

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE...
WHA

KOSHIROU...

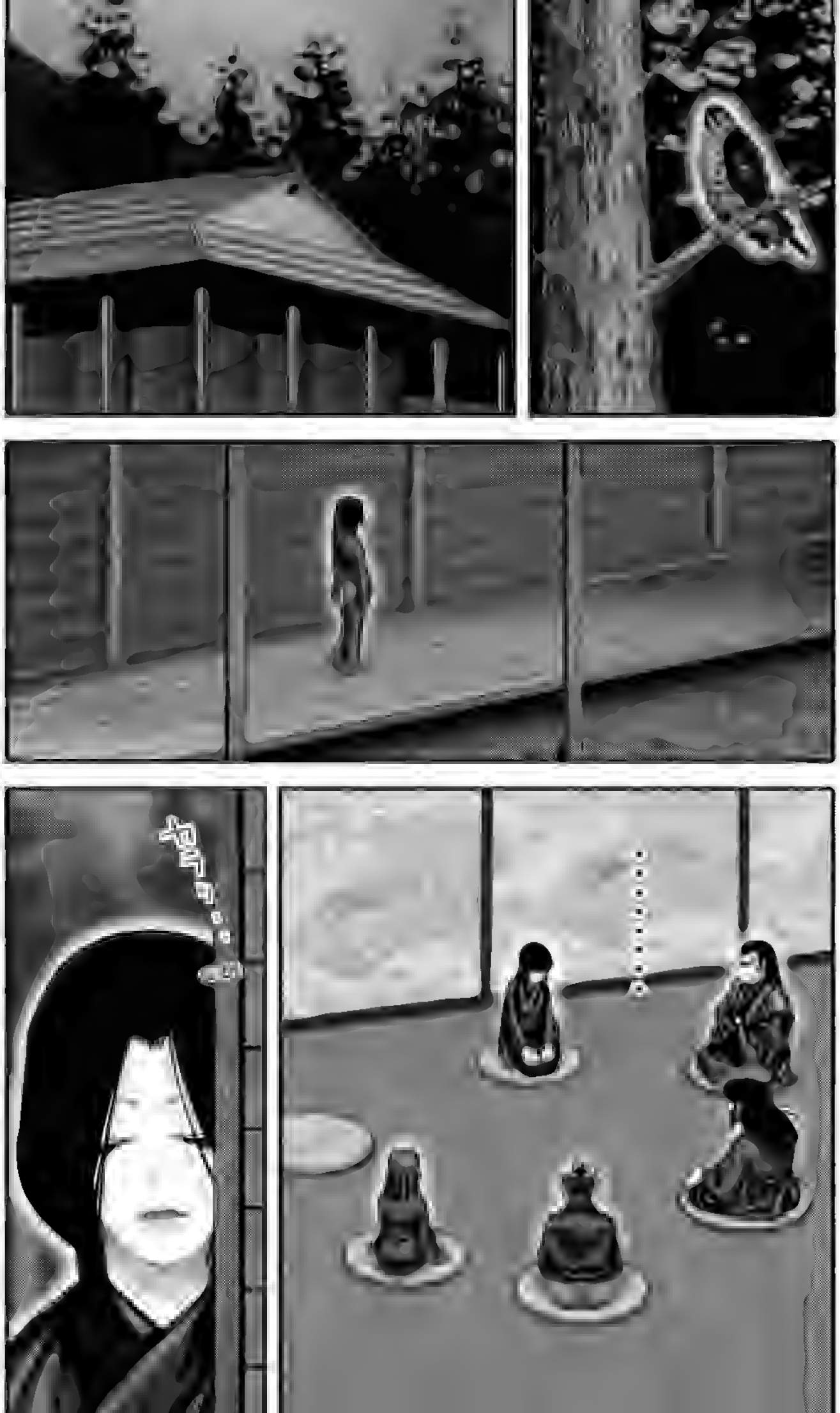


GENNOSUKE-
SAMA!

.....

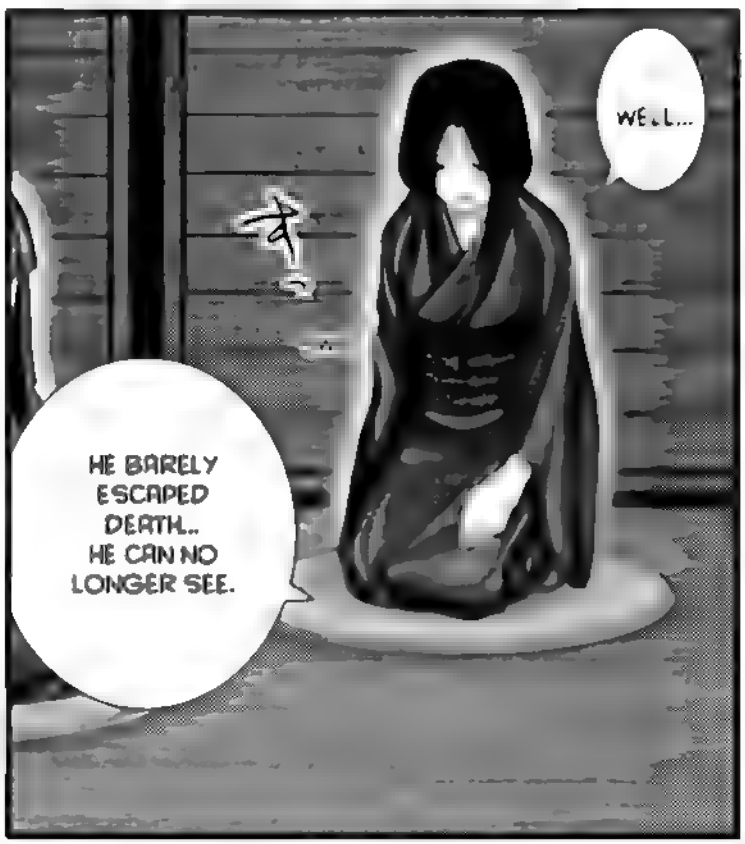
RIH...

...IS GONE
HE'S GONE
GENNOSUKE-SAMA
AH...



SO...
HOW ARE KOSHIROU'S WOUNDS?

OKAY... YOU'LL HAVE TO LOOK AFTER KOSHIROU FOR A WHILE, AKEGINU.
I WILL.


WE...L...
HE BARELY ESCAPED DEATH.. HE CAN NO LONGER SEE.

WELL... OBORO-SAMA..
WHAT YOU'VE DONE...
...IS INEXCUSABLE!

HMMPH, IF ONLY YOU WEREN'T A BLOOD RELATIVE OF OGEN-SAMA'S—
YOUR ACTIONS WERE NOTHING LESS THAN TRAITOROUS!
...PLEASE FORGIVE ME...
...TENZEN.
OGEN-SAMA AND YASHAMARU HAVE MOST LIKELY...
KOSHIROU IS WOUNDED, AND...
ROUSAI IS DEAD...
OUT OF OUR TEN NINJA...
...BEEN KILLED AS WELL.
GRR

AND THEY EVEN STOLE THE BATTLE SCROLL.
WE HAVE TO GET IT BACK, EVEN IF IT MEANS OUR LIVES!
HMMPH!
OUR CLAN HAS BEEN WAITING FOR THIS DAY!
THOSE KOUGA BASTARDS!
WE'LL SEND ALL OF THEM TO BURN IN THE FIERY PITS OF HELL!
THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING!
WE MUST BE SURE THAT OBORO-SAMA IS WITH US!
BUT...BEFORE WE CAN BEGIN THIS BLOODY BATTLE...

SO... OBORO-SAMA! CAN YOU SWEAR TO US...
...THAT GENNOSUKE KOUGA WILL DIE BY YOUR HAND?
DRIP
DRIP

...
...
...

PLEASE LET US HEAR YOUR DECISION, OBORO-SAMA

...A WHILE BACK...
OGEN-SAMA SPOKE TO ME..

?
WHA- WHAT'S IN THAT JAR?

YOU MAY BE THE FUTURE LEADER OF THE IGA TSUBAKURE CLAN, BUT
LOOK AT YOU. YOU HAVEN'T PERFECTED A SINGLE NINJA TECHNIQUE
IGA

...WITH THOSE POWERFUL EYES...
BUT...
YOU ...
...WERE BORN...
.....
THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH NINJA TECHNIQUE...
YOU DIDN'T LEARN THAT FROM ME.
...THOSE EYES OF YOURS.
OBORO, I FEAR...

...ONE DAY LEAD OUR TSUBAKIGAKURE CLAN TO DISASTER.
I'D RATHER YOUR EYES WERE DESTROY THE TECHNIQUES OF OUR TSUBAKIGAKURE NINJA AND...
IF THAT DAY EVER COMES, YOUR EYES WILL BE THE SOURCE OF DESTRUCTION.
IF THAT DAY EVER COMES, YOUR EYES WILL BE THE SOURCE OF DESTRUCTION.
...SEVEN DAYS OF DARKNESS POTION UPON YOUR EYELIDS.
YOU MUST SPLASH THIS...

AND THEN WHAT WILL HAPPEN?
YOU CAN'T MEAN—

ZING

MY EYES WILL BE SEALED SHUT—
FOR SEVEN DAYS AND SEVEN NIGHTS
POUR THE SEVEN DAYS OF DARKNESS POTION UPON MY EYELIDS—

AH!
FOR-FORGIVE ME, OBORO-SAMA!
WHA-
MY-MY GOD...

TO BE CONTINUED
IN BOOK 3

about the authors

FŪTARO YAMADA

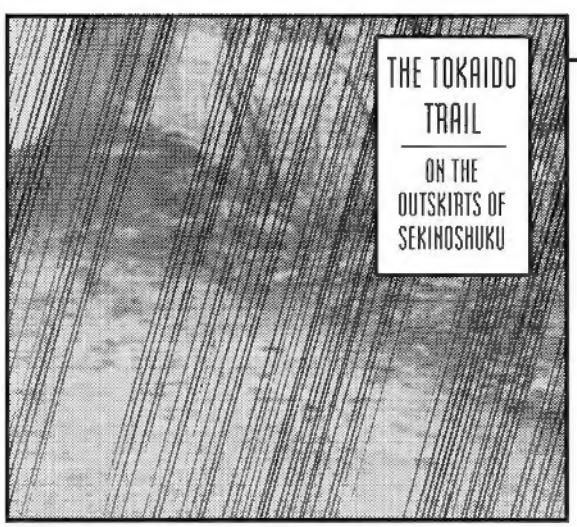
Born in 1922 in Hyogo Prefecture, Fūtaro Yamada made his debut as a novelist while still a student at Tokyo Medical University. Yamada was known for his mystery novels such as *Ganchuu No Akuma*. Later, his Ninja Scrolls series became wildly popular. He penned a wide body of literature, including the period piece *Makaitensei*, as well as several collections of essays such as *Ato Senkai No Banmeshi* and *Ningen Rinjyuu Zukan.* He passed away on July 28, 2001.

MASAKI SEGAWA

Masaki Segawa made his debut in 1997 with the series Senma Monogatari, which ran in the weekly comic *Morning*. In 1998, he began his long-running *Uppers* magazine series Onigiri Jyuuzou, which ended in the year 2000. This is his second long-running series, and his first adaptation. He loves cats and watermelon.
He currently resides in Funabashi.

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction in our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.



THE TOKAIDO TRAIL, PAGE 63

The Tokaido Trail was a famous 300-mile coastal road linking Kyoto and Tokyo during the Tokugawa Era. The road was used by the shogun to maintain control over the country, but it soon became a major commercial route. The fifty-three stations along the Tokaido route were depicted in wood block prints by the famous Edo Era artist Hiroshige. Today several train lines make the journey from Kyoto to Tokyo along parts of the Tokaido Trail.

ANISAMA, PAGE 148

Okoi is actually calling her brother "anisama," or "older brother." In Japanese, siblings are commonly referred to as "older brother" or older sister." We chose to translate this using Saemon's name, since it sounds unnatural in English to refer to someone as "older brother." "Anisama" is actually a very formal, and somewhat antiquated, term. "Oniisama" is the modern equivalent, and "oniisan" and "oniichan" are less formal variations.

SHURIKEN, PAGE 194

Shuriken are the throwing stars used by ninja. Goshiro's shuriken is shaped not like a star but like a sickle, or scythe.